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Kuwait denies Iraq used airspace

UNITED NATIONS, April 30. (Kuna): Kuwait has rejected Iranian allegations that Iraqi military aircraft were permitted to use Kuwaiti airspace.

The allegations were contained in a note which the Iranian Foreign Ministry said had been delivered to the Kuwaiti embassy in Tehran.

In response, Kuwaiti Ambassador Mohammad A. Abulhasan said this could not be so, because the embassy is closed "and all work there is suspended because there is no staff there."

"As you are aware," Abulhasan said in a letter addressed to Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, "the suspension of work at the Kuwaiti embassy in Tehran was the result of the holding of an organised Iranian demonstration in which the inviolability of the Kuwaiti embassy and its contents was infringed and flouted, as you were informed at the appropriate time last year."

Confusion

"It now seems clear that the Islamic Republic of Iran is not satisfied with repeating spurious allegations that have already been refuted by Kuwait, but is now circulating letters that have no justification and no basis in truth," he said.

Abulhasan said Kuwait deeply regretted "this irresponsible Iranian conduct, which is aimed at creating obvious confusion that is not in the interests of the stability and security of the region."

Iraq warns

BAGHDAD, April 30, (Reuters): Iraq today threatened to resume missile attacks against Iranian cities unless Tehran stopped bombarding Iraqi towns and villages. A high command communiqué said Iranian long-range artillery hit residential areas in the southern port city of Basra last night.

Two detained

ANGELES, Philippines, April 30, (UPI): Police detained an Iranian and an Iraqi outside the US Clark Air Base one day after Israeli intelligence reported that PLO commandos were planning a weekend attack on US servicemen, police said today. US and Philippine officials further tightened security around the base, deploying extra officers, bomb-sniffing dogs and additional sandbags around the base's four gates.

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آن کے اردو صفحات میں

○ سکھ انتہا پسندوں نے ۲۸ افراد کو ہلاک کر دیا، فوجی دستوں سے جھڑپیں

○ امریکہ پاکستان میں مصفاہ انتخابات کے انعقاد میں مدد دے، بے نظیر کلائرو

○ کراچی میں فوجی گروہوں میں تصادم، دو اہلکار ہلاک

○ بحران کے وزیر اعظم سے احمد جبار اللہ کا خصوصی انٹرویو

○ ریاستیات

Military role in Gulf expanded

US to protect neutral ships

WASHINGTON, April 30, (AP): The United States is expanding its military role in the Gulf, saying it will not "stand by and watch innocent people be killed or maimed" in attacks on neutral ships.

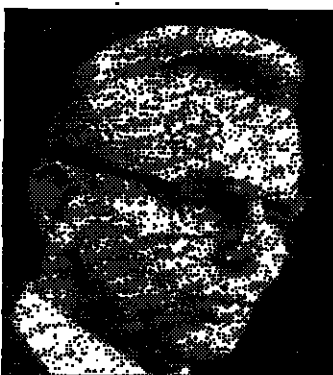
Under a policy announced yesterday by Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci, US forces will go to the aid of friendly, neutral ships that are fired on and ask for help.

Previously, the umbrella of US protection had covered only American-flagged vessels and 11 Kuwaiti oil tankers that were allowed to register last summer as US-flag vessels.

Neutral

The new policy, approved by President Reagan at a White House meeting yesterday, is aimed chiefly at Iran, which US officials blame for nearly all of the attacks on ships outside declared war-exclusion zones. However, Carlucci claimed the policy should not be viewed as "a tilt in either direction" in the nearly eight-year war between Iran and Iraq.

"Our policy has been and will continue to be one of strict neutrality."



Carlucci said.

Reagan's order came 11 days after American warships and aircraft clashed with Iranian forces in the Gulf, sinking or disabling six Iranian vessels. The battles erupted following a Navy attack on Iranian oil platforms in retaliation for the mining of a US frigate.

Carlucci said: "The President has decided to provide assistance under certain circumstances to ships in distress in the Gulf and Strait of Hormuz in keeping with longstanding, time-honoured Navy and maritime tradition."

"Describing the new policy," he added: "We are not the policeman of the Gulf, nor do we wish to be."

"For over 200 years, US policy has been to help protect freedom of navigation in international waters. This (new) assistance is a logical and humanitarian outgrowth of recent events in the Gulf which further strengthens our adherence to this principle."

Request

"We cannot stand by and watch innocent people be killed or maimed by malicious, lawless actions when we have the means to assist, and perhaps prevent them. We do not intend to describe our specific rules of engagement or the methods we plan to use in rendering this assistance."

Carlucci said the new policy will be provided to "friendly, innocent neutral vessels flying a non-belligerent flag, outside declared war-exclusion zones, that are not carrying contraband or resisting legitimate visit and search by a Gulf belligerent."

"Following a request from the vessel under attack, assistance will be rendered by a US warship or aircraft if this unit is in the vicinity and its mission permits rendering such assistance. With this assistance, we anticipate no increase in our current force levels."

"With regard to mines, I have consulted with our allies who were attending the nuclear planning group meeting in Brussels this week. We all agreed that we should provide each other mutual support and cooperation in the interest of keeping the international waterways free from this threat."

"This policy will go into effect once we have informed those free world, non-belligerent countries that maintain shipping interests in the Gulf."

Pressure

An administration official said the policy will put "a little more pressure" on Iran to accept a ceasefire and withdrawal to pre-war borders.

Most of Iran's attacks on ships have been in open, territorial waters that will be covered by the new policy, said the official, declining to be identified. By contrast, Iraq's attacks have been confined largely to so-called exclusionary zones that are not covered.

The official noted that the protective coverage does not apply to ships from communist countries, and emphasised that

(Continued on Page 2)

Gulf states may be forced to sever ties with Iran

By Ahmed Al Jarallah

OTHER Gulf states may follow Saudi Arabia in severing ties with Iran if relations between these countries and Iran deteriorate, Bahraini Premier Sheikh Khalifa Bin Salman has said. Supporting Saudi Arabia's decision to break ties with Tehran, he said: "Any other country would naturally do so if relations with Iran had reached the same point as the Saudi-Iranian relations."

He also said Kuwait's stand during the recent hijacking of one of its airliners has defeated the aims of terrorists.

Patience

In an exclusive interview Sheikh Khalifa said, there are some who believe that Saudi Arabia should have cut off diplomatic relations with Iran long ago.

"Saudi Arabia has shown a great deal of wisdom and patience towards Iran, which has



Sheikh Khalifa.

been witnessed by the whole world. But it seems that Iran abused this patience.

The people in the Gulf want to see an end to the Iran-Iraq war but Iran does not want peace.

"If Iran accepts an end to this war, it will improve its relations with the peoples of the region," he said.

The premier added: "I personally feel that the situation of the war is not the same as it was in the past, which, perhaps, gives us hope that reason will prevail to end this war."

Sheikh Khalifa remarked that the war is taking a heavy toll on human and economic resources. "Most of us have plans for development and construction based on the end of this war."

Unity

The premier maintained that Arab unity has been strengthened since the summit in Amman and that with this unity the Arab world was better prepared to face threats from Iran or other enemies.

He added: "Egypt, the heart of the Arab world, has returned to its active role in the Arab group."

"The Arab position is better now," Sheikh Khalifa said, "but needs to be strengthened more."

"Desperate strikes may come from Iran or others."

Commenting on the hijacking of the Kuwaiti airliner, Sheikh Khalifa said Bahrain was concerned about this incident for several reasons, one of which was

(Continued on Page 2)

Saudis reject demand to inspect missiles

BEIRUT, April 30, (Reuters): Saudi Arabia has rejected an American request to inspect its Chinese missiles for nuclear or chemical warheads, Saudi Defence Minister, Prince Sultan bin Abdulaziz, has revealed.

The minister, in an interview with the London-based Lebanese Al Sayyid magazine, said Washington had been told the matter was only Riyadh's concern.

The weekly did not say when the interview took place.

"The Americans said, they wanted to inspect the missiles to see whether they carried nuclear or chemical warheads. We said no, never, we will not allow you," the minister said.

He said his government told the US administration: "We buy weapons from you and the only condition of the purchase contracts is that we don't give these weapons to a third country, other than that the matter is our concern only."

Prince Sultan said Riyadh purchased the CSS-2 medium-range missiles two years ago and asserted that the missiles did not carry nuclear warheads, saying: "We are against nuclear weapons."

Last Tuesday, the official Saudi Press Agency (SPA) said Riyadh had decided to sign the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. The decision was taken at a Monday cabinet meeting chaired by King Fahd.

Prince Sultan added: "Some think we are hostages to America in the purchase of weapons and they even say we are hostages to American policy. We don't need to answer this, the purchase of the Chinese missiles is the answer."

The purchase of the surface-to-surface missiles was revealed in March and China then confirmed it had sold an undisclosed number of missiles to Riyadh.

Washington has voiced unhappiness over the Saudi purchase of the missiles, which have a range of 1,850 miles (3,000 km).

Gulf-based diplomats see the Saudi purchase to be a warning to Iran not to extend its missiles war beyond Iraqi targets.

King Fahd, in an interview with a Kuwaiti newspaper published on Thursday, said Saudi Arabia was prepared if necessary to use the missiles to defend itself against Iran.

Two killed in Karachi riots

KARACHI, April 30, (Reuters): Two people were killed and 10 wounded in a gunbattle between ethnic groups in Karachi, Pakistan's biggest city, a government hospital said today.

Police used tear gas to control the fighting between Pashtuns from the north-west of Pakistan and immigrants from other parts of the sub-continent last night, eyewitnesses said.

The violence started after a road accident in which two people were killed. The rival groups hurled stones, then began shooting.

Police said the scene of the battle in the west of the city was still tense today. Bus operators withdrew their vehicles from the area, which is mostly inhabited by Pashtuns and Urdu-speaking

Biharis who emigrated from India and Bangladesh.

Firemen said four shops were set ablaze during the riots.

More than 350 people have been killed in Karachi since October 1986 in riots between the two groups.

Convoy of tankers arrives

MANAMA, Bahrain, April 30, (Agencies): A convoy of three US-flagged tankers, the first since the April 18 armed clashes between the United States and Iran, reached Kuwait yesterday, a US military spokesman said.

The spokesman said the US Central Command said the group encountered "no unusual activity" during its three-day trip up the Gulf. It was the 26th convoy of 1988 and the 48th since the US began escorting 11 re-registered tankers last July to safeguard them from Iranian attacks.

The convoy consisted of the 46,723-ton liquefied gas carrier Gas Queen and the oil products carriers Chesapeake City and Ocean City, both 79,999 tons. The escorting warships were the guided missile destroyer Joseph Strauss and the destroyer Merrill.

Cover

Iran's top war spokesman said yesterday that the US warships escorting the tankers fired aimlessly at the water when they passed an Iranian island where Revolutionary Guards have a speedboat base.

Parliamentary Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani also said US aircraft gave extra cover to the convoy.

By Fathima Ahmed

THE sale of discounted tickets on the Kuwait-India sector have been suspended "indefinitely" by three airlines — Kuwait Airways, British Airways and Air India, according to a reliable airline source.

These three airlines signed an agreement on Thursday as part of a plan to "improve the yield" on that sector. Full IATA fares for travel on this sector will be charged "indefinitely," according to the source.

A KAC circular, signed by the KAC regional manager, BA sales manager and manager of AI was sent on April 28 to all travel agents in Kuwait.

Full

According to the agreement BA, KAC and AI will stop selling discounted tickets from today (May 1). Full domestic fares, as published in the ABC Guide, will be charged for travel within India.

Tickets issued before May 1



Arabs waving the Palestinian flag at Al Aqsa mosque in occupied Jerusalem. (Reuter wirephoto)

Red alert in Punjab after Sikhs kill 28

AMRITSAR, India, April 30, (Agencies): Authorities declared a red alert across Punjab yesterday in response to 24 hours of Sikh militant attacks that killed 28 people and wounded at least 64 others, officials and reports said.

In one clash, extremists deployed around the Golden Temple of Amritsar engaged security forces in a fierce automatic weapons duel, prompting high priest Jasbir Singh Rode to warn that Sikhs "would not sit idle" if lawmen tried to enter their holiest shrine.

Police said the gunfight at the sprawling temple, which is controlled by armed separatists, began when a suspected extremist broke from custody at a police picket outside the temple and fled to shelter inside.

Guns on the temple ramparts exchanged fire with paramilitary police posted on nearby rooftops, police said.

Picket

Police sources said a British citizen, Swarn Kaur, of Birmingham, was injured in the cross-fire. The woman was visiting Amritsar to worship at the temple and received superficial wounds, they said.

Police increased their pickets outside the temple earlier this week in what they said was a response to increased extremist activity inside. In June 1984, the Indian Army assaulted the temple to flush out extremists in an operation that took 2,000 lives.

Police reported five bombs exploded in rapid succession yesterday evening in the central

market of Batala, 30 miles (48 km) northeast of Amritsar, killing six people and wounding at least 55 others. They said the dead included two extremists, apparently killed while setting off the devices.

Witnesses contacted by telephone said more than 80 per cent of the blast victims were Hindus, who as owners of the market were the apparent targets of the blasts.

In reaction to the bombings, irate Hindus later attacked Sikh-owned shops, prompting police to impose a curfew on the area around Batala. The Press Trust of India said Hindu mobs beat to death one person and burnt alive a second.

Police reported other separatist attacks across Punjab left 22 people dead and eight wounded since Thursday evening. Authorities responded to the violence by declaring a statewide red alert involving intensified patrols. A similar condition was imposed last Saturday.

In one of the worst attacks, police said about 10 Sikh gunmen — members of the hard-line "Bhindranwale Tiger Force" — killed nine people in a 30-minute unopposed killing spree Thursday night on the outskirts of Amritsar.

'My lord'

LONDON, April 30, (Reuters): There is nothing like this dame — at least not in a British courtroom.

Elizabeth Butler-Sloss' appointment to the appeals court raised an important question of protocol: how should the first woman judge to sit on that bench be addressed?

Legal experts said there were no provisions in English law for a female title for an appeals judge.

Barristers appearing yesterday before the former "Mrs Justice" of the high court family division, decided the lady would, like her male colleagues, be called "My lord," not "My lady."

W. Bank mayors asked to resign

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, April 30, (Reuters): Organisers of the 20-week-old Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip called on Israeli-appointed mayors to resign as "protest" against the occupation during Ramadan.

The 15th communique from underground leaders of the uprising, which appeared yesterday in East Jerusalem, named for the first time the mayors of Bethlehem, Jericho, Al Bireh and Ramallah and warned them to resign.

"If they continue, let them know the previous attacks were nothing compared to the punishment that awaits them," the communique said.

Ramallah Mayor, Khalil Musa Khalil, was slightly injured on Thursday when demonstrators attacked his office, and the car of Jericho's Jamil Khalaf was recently set on fire, Palestinian sources said. Nablus Mayor Hafez Touqan resigned last week.

The leaflet also demanded the resignation of Israeli-appointed local councils and called for attacks on local Arab policemen employed by Israel.

The leaflet called for several new strikes in the occupied territories and for a day of violent demonstration on May 1.

Most of the West Bank and Gaza was quiet after Friday prayers as demonstrations appeared to wane in the uprising in which at least 167 Palestinians and two Israelis have died.

Palestinian sources attributed the decline primarily to the month of Ramadan, which began two weeks ago.

The president of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) yesterday criticised the Israeli government's "disproportionate" use of force against Palestinians in the occupied territories.

Three airlines stop giving discounts

Tickets for India to cost more

are valid for travel up to May 15 but they "will not be valid for travel after that date" on the Kuwait-India sector. However, if the journey originates in India — India-Kuwait sector — the fare level is unchanged.

Passengers buying a ticket in Bombay will pay less; for instance, a Bombay-Kuwait one-way ticket costs about Rs 4,060 (under KD 100), the full IATA fare. If a one-way ticket from Kuwait to Bombay is bought here, it costs KD 128,200, over Rs. 6,000.

Travel sources expect passengers to "get used to the idea of paying IATA fares." AI used to charge KD 157 (discounted fare), now passengers will pay the full fare, KD 197.

Travel agents expect Indians to buy their tickets from Bombay, paying in foreign exchange

which is permissible under the Indian Reserve Bank rules.

The AI announcement last month shocked Indians. Contrary to popular belief, the three carriers had been considering the implementation of full IATA fares "long before the AI announcement, agreeing in principle to implement it from May 1."

A joint announcement was to be made by them in April. However, due to the KAC hijacking, AI was obliged to make the announcement as an "act of good faith," according to a source, with the "collection of full fares after the resumption of KAC flights."

KAC resumed flights to the Asian sector last Wednesday. The airlines operating from Kuwait are running at a loss, aviation sources said. Previous attempts were made to suspend

discounts and implement the "Yield Improvement Programme," or simply to boost business.

As previous efforts to suspend discounts failed, the carriers decided to implement it sector-wise.

Earlier this year, full IATA fares were implemented on the European sector, a fact that was not publicised. Now, the Kuwait-India sector is on trial.

Due to a receding market in recent months, some airlines like Alitalia pulled out of Kuwait, a fact sources cite as an example of the recession in the market. To make operations lucrative, they are now recovering a part of the operating costs from passengers.

A reliable source said that as the agreement was made "jointly" there is no "chance of rescinding it unilaterally."

INTERNATIONAL

French Navy shells Caledonian separatists

NOUMEA, April 30. (Reuters): A French Navy patrol boat shelled a Kanak separatist camp today, the first intervention by the Navy in over a week of ethnic violence that has swept the French-ruled territory.

A spokesman for the French high commission said the Navy vessel turned artillery fire on the separatists after they fired at a 25-man squad of paramilitary gendarmes moving in on the camp at Poubo, 400 km (250 miles) north-east of Noumea.

The 30 Kanaks (Melanesians) fled and there were no apparent injuries, the spokesman said.

The gendarmes seized radio and other equipment and then reboarded the boat, La Moqueuse, to continue patrolling the coast of the Pacific territory, 20,000 km (12,000 miles) from France.

Hostages

The incident resulted with France still trying to gain the release of 23 hostages held by separatists.

A show of strength by 7,000 soldiers and paramilitary gendarmes, many sent from the French mainland to police the volatile territory before last Sunday's French presidential election, has failed to restore order.

Police said they arrested two dozen people yesterday, including a Roman Catholic nun charged with harbouring a suspected separatist gunman.

Indigenous

Melanesians (Kanakas), who boycotted the election as part of their fight to end French rule, are holding a magistrate and 22 gendarmes hostage in a limestone cave on the remote atoll of Ouvea, 200 miles (300 km) from Noumea.

Gunmen struck again on Wednesday, capturing eight French negotiators as they picked their way through thick undergrowth to begin talks on releasing their colleagues.

Among the captives is Philippe Legorjus, leader of France's elite anti-terrorist Gign gendarme squad, who is believed to be still negotiating with about 15 heavily-armed Kanaks for the release of his fellow captives.

Bomb hurled into Roh's party office

SEOUL, April 30. (AP): Police arrested a college student today after he and three others attacked the headquarters of President Roh Tae-woo's ruling party in Seoul with home-made plastic bombs. No one was injured.

The crude bombs, made out of plastic milk bottles, exploded on the driveway of the Democratic Justice Party (DJP) compound, sending people in the vicinity fleeing for cover, police said.

The student, Paek In-Sung, 23, of Dongguk University in Seoul was seized before he had a chance to throw a bomb, police said.

Police said the attackers ruled three bombs over the closed back gate of the DJP headquarters shortly after noon today and scattered leaflets denouncing what they called were rigged presidential elections.

Paek was arrested on the scene but the three other students fled, police said.

Police later identified Paek as a member of the "save-the-nation suicide squad," which organised the seizure of a library in the US Cultural Centre building in downtown Seoul on Feb 24. Paek was sought in connection with the case.

Five members of the radical student group stormed the centre's second-floor library to protest US support for President Roh Tae-woo, whom they charged was elected through fraud.

Complaint to be lodged with UN

Lebanon protests at Israeli raid

BEIRUT, April 30. (AP): Lebanon has decided to complain to the UN Security Council about an Israeli raid into south Lebanon villages in which 200 villagers were detained, a newspaper reported today.

The leftist daily As-Safir said acting Prime Minister Salim Hoss has instructed Lebanon's Ambassador to the United Nations, Rashid Fakhoury, to submit the official protest.

Hoss also asked Fakhoury to "seek international pressure on Israel to call off his suppressive measures, release the detainees and refrain from interfering in Lebanese affairs."

Fights

As-Safir, the independent An-Nahar newspaper and other daily publications said Israeli troops on Friday raided 16 Muslim villages in Israel's self-designated security zone in south Lebanon and rounded up about 200 Lebanese villagers.

As-Safir said the raid came

after inhabitants refused to join the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army militia and allow the formation of Israeli-sponsored civil administrations to run their affairs.

An-Nahar said that as the Israeli unit stormed into the villages, Israeli jets flew low over Mount Hermon, where the Lebanese, Syrian and Israeli borders meet.

The paper quoted unnamed witnesses as saying the Syrians fired a Soviet-made surface-to-air missile at "a formation of Israeli warplanes that tried to approach the Syrian border."

"The Israeli warplanes dropped hot air balloons (to deflect the missile) and flew away toward the occupied territory," the report added.

Territory

The paper did not say if the missile was fired from Lebanese or Syrian territory. It said Syrian sources "refused to confirm or

deny the report."

Israel Radio said Friday Israeli troops entered two southern villages in the security zone and interrogated dozens of residents about two commando infiltrations into Israel in which two Israeli soldiers were killed this week. Five Palestinians commandos also were killed.

Israel established a security belt, some 6 to 10 miles (10 to 16 kilometres) deep, in south Lebanon after it withdrew the bulk of its forces from Lebanon in June 1985, ending a three-year invasion. The purpose of the buffer was to guard against raids into northern Israel.

Another report said Syrian air defence troops dug in along the mountainous border region fired a Soviet-made SAM-6 rocket at the Israeli aircraft, but the rocket exploded in the air without hitting any of the planes.

The Israeli warplanes unleashed at least 10 heat balloons to divert the rocket as they headed

back, apparently to bases in Israel, the sources said.

Syrian military sources in the Rashaya region refused to confirm or deny the incident, which coincided with heightened tension in southern Lebanon over a bombing that left two members of the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army dead.

A spokesman for the militia said two members of the militia were killed earlier Friday when a bomb exploded as an SLA convoy drove by near the village of Ta'ir, 5 miles (8 km) north of Israel.

An armoured personnel carrier was destroyed in the blast, the spokesman said in a statement broadcast on the SLA-run Voice of Hope radio station.

Violence has escalated sharply this week in the south. Wednesday, two commandos slipped into Israel from Lebanon and wounded a civilian truck driver before being killed by Israeli troops.

Move to quell rebel offensive

Bangladesh troops on alert

DHAKA, April 30. (AP): Government security forces have been put on alert and nighttime curfews imposed in southeastern Bangladesh to try to quell an offensive launched by tribal rebels, government officials said Saturday.

The rebels, most members of the Buddhist Chakma tribe, were blamed for the deaths of 21 people in the southeastern Chittagong Hill Tracts last week. Most of the victims were Muslim settlers.

The rebels contend the government's settlement policy is robbing them of their traditional lands and distinct culture.

Monsoon rains generally begin in late May or early June, slowing down both rebel and government activity in the hill region.

Government officials in Khagrachari, 140 kilometres (85

miles) southeast of Dhaka, said in a telephone interview that security forces were on "red alert." The curfew will hold from dusk to dawn, they said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The official said fresh contingents of Bangladesh Border Security Guards were brought to Khagrachari to deal with the rebels, some of whom are entering Bangladesh from sanctuaries in neighbouring India.

Attacked

In the latest violence, Muslim settlers attacked a tribal village at Comilla Tila in the Hill Tracts on Thursday and burned several dwellings, the officials said. The raid was in retaliation for the killing of 14 settlers last Tuesday in the area.

Security forces intervened, and no injuries were reported in the incident, the officials said.

They said two Muslim settlers were arrested on charges of rioting.

In another incident Thursday, a security forces' camp was attacked by rebels, but the raiders were repulsed, the officials said.

Reports from the area are often deflected because it is remote with only primitive communications.

The rebels have been fighting government settlement efforts for the past 14 years. An estimated 4,000 people have died in rebel attacks and government reprisals, and nearly 50,000 Chakma tribals have fled to India to avoid the conflict.

A Foreign Ministry official, who also insisted on anonymity, noted that talks have been held to try to repatriate the tribals now in refugee camps in India's Tripura state.



Two Swiss cows nuzzle each other on the nose during an agriculture fair in Chur, Switzerland. (Reuters wirephoto)

Solidarity men defy deportation bid

WARSAW, April 30. (Reuters): Polish authorities tried to deport two well-known anti-communist militants today but the two men refused to board a plane to Italy, witnesses said.

Kornel Morawiecki and Emil Kolodziej, jailed leaders of the radical fighting Solidarity group, refused to board the plane at Warsaw airport after being taken there from the city's Rakowicka jail, they added.

Legal sources said they were immediately taken back to jail.

Official sources said earlier the two men were being freed on humanitarian grounds under a

deal mediated by the Polish Roman Catholic Church hierarchy and were being sent to Italy for medical treatment.

"They are going abroad for long medical treatment. It is not clear how long the treatment will last. Doctors will decide," an official source said before they refused to board the plane.

A third leader of the group, Krzysztof Szymanski, was freed in the northern city of Gdansk but was not due to go abroad, the source added.

Unrest

The deportation attempt came as thousands of striking workers at two giant steel mills in southern Poland defied the government in Poland's worst labour unrest for several years.

Opposition sources said that

in an apparent attempt to prevent trouble during Sunday's May Day festivities the authorities had rounded up more than 40 opposition activists.

They include veteran dissident Jacek Kuron, Solidarity spokesman Janusz Onyszkiewicz, former Solidarity underground leader Zbigniew Bujak, and Jacek Czaputowicz, leader of the Freedom and Peace (WIP) conscientious objectors group.

There was no sign to an end of the labour unrest led by the outlawed Solidarity free trade union at the two steelworks.

About 16,000 workers at the giant Lenin Mill near Krakow kept up their strike for a fifth day and sent a telegram to Polish-born Pope John Paul who visited the plant in 1983.

Chinese have to wait for Last Emperor

BEIJING, April 30. (UPI): Though the Beijing film studio is working overtime to complete the Chinese-language version of "The Last Emperor," it may be five months before Chinese viewers get a look at the film that swept this year's Academy awards, according to the version's producer.

A delay may reflect increasing criticism of the film's historical accuracy and the side-stepping of cultural protection policies that allowed Italian director Bernardo Bertolucci unparalleled access to the Forbidden City.

"Our work here is almost finished and we had hoped the film would be released by July or August," said Cai Rubin, producer of the Chinese version of the film that won nine Oscars on April 12, including best picture and director.

But Cai and others at the studio, where much of Bertolucci's historical epic was filmed and is being dubbed into Chinese, said some film industry leaders want to put off the premiere until October 1, the anniversary of the founding of communist China.

A spokesman for the Beijing film distribution company said today the company could have the movie on Chinese screens within two months of receiving a complete copy from the studio. He said no specific release date had been set.

Dhaka police hunt human traders

DHAKA, April 30. (AP): Dhaka police have launched a search in the capital for smuggling rings suspected of luring young Bangladesh women into foreign prostitution, police sources said today.

The sources, said more than 50 young women, most under the age of 30, were reported missing by their families in the last two months. Most were believed to have been taken abroad as prostitutes, he said.

The government and police have complained about human trafficking in the past, but this was the first time they gave any estimate of how many women were involved.

Some of the women came to Dhaka from villages to get jobs in factories or as maids, the sources said. Salaries are low, and some of the women may have sought better-paying work abroad, they added.

"There is every possibility that the women were smuggled abroad," according to one source at police headquarters.



Three Afghan boys in their baggy uniforms watch a demonstration on folding parachutes at a military technical training centre outside Kabul. (Reuters wirephoto)

Afghans want only peace, not politics

KABUL, April 30. (Reuters): Ordinary Afghans exhausted by war seem to care little who rules the country after the withdrawal of Soviet troops—as long as they have peace.

"After nine years of war my hair has turned white," said Nabi, a Lapis Lazuli merchant, summing up the weariness of people in the Afghan capital.

He shared the seemingly widespread delight that Soviet forces would start leaving Afghanistan on May 15 under an accord concluded in Geneva earlier this month.

"I don't care what government we have as long as it is Afghan," said a fur merchant on the Chicken Street Bazaar, which once drew throngs of free-spending tourists from around the world.

"I'm not just happy, I'm very, very happy," said a shopkeeper selling antique Russian samovars and porcelain as well as Afghan treasures.

Ignored

To underline his feelings, he pointedly ignored two Russians browsing in his store. "I don't serve Soviets in this shop," he said.

In interviews with Reuters, few appeared anxious that the war would continue if Muslim

rebels fulfil their vow to overthrow the Soviet-backed government of President Najibullah.

Some analysts believe protracted fighting would effectively partition the country, with the rebels in command in the south and Najibullah, backed by Soviet advisers and aid, remaining in power in Kabul and the northern areas.

Another view is that war-weariness and force of habit will reconcile the rest of the unenthused population to their president, a KGB-trained former secret police chief.

Animosity

Despite the animosity towards the Soviet Union, a visitor from Moscow discovers that Afghanistan under Najibullah seems in many ways like a southern Soviet republic.

Najibullah has adopted many features of Soviet life — a Red Square-style revolution parade, television evening news modelled on the Soviet programme Vremya, and even traffic police boxes like those of the Soviet state auto inspectorate.

Afghans say Russian is now taught in all schools — even in the old Anglo-American school — and is required to build a good career.

Soviets have built N-bunker network

WASHINGTON, April 30. (Reuters): If a superpower nuclear war breaks out, Soviet leaders could descend into deep underground bunkers to survive and direct a long conflict with the United States, according to US Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci.

Carlucci told reporters on Friday the Soviet Union has over 40 years dug a major system of command centres and living quarters, some hundreds of yards underground.

He said some networks under Moscow and other Soviet cities include subway trains, and others are built far from urban areas. He did not name other cities.

Operational

But "there can be only one purpose for these shelters — to provide the Soviet leadership the ability to fight a protracted nuclear conflict," he said.

Carlucci called a news conference to release the Defence Department's 1988 edition of "Soviet Military Power" in which he said Moscow had recently deployed the new 10-warhead SS-24 nuclear missile

on railroad cars.

He said about 10 of the big missiles were now operational and they could be quickly rolled about to protect them from US attack.

But in addition to describing Moscow's military advances during the past year, he dwelt at length on the Soviet Union's "passive defensive system" of tunnels and underground command and control bunkers.

"These facilities contradict in steel and concrete their (Soviet) protestations that they share President Reagan's view that nuclear war can never be won and must never be fought," he said.

"These facilities reveal that they are preparing themselves for just the opposite."

Carlucci said the United States is currently developing weapons which could destroy the deep Soviet bunkers, but refused to say if they included "earth penetrator" warheads designed to explode underground.

No comparison

Carlucci said there was no comparison between the Soviet system and some underground facilities built for US leaders in the 1950s.

"To have something comparable, we would have to have facilities where we could put every governor, mayor, every cabinet official and our whole command structure underground with subways running here and there."

US intelligence has known about the Soviet effort for some time but has only recently been able to more clearly define its extent, the defence secretary told reporters.

Ties with Iran may be severed

(Continued from Page 1)

the fact that the hijackers carried forged Bahraini passports.

The premier praised the principled and unified stand taken by Kuwait, saying they had defeated the aim of the terrorists.

He said: "Any weak stand in the face of the hijackers would be a disaster resulting in an increase in blackmailing, especially among Gulf states."

Information

Sheikh Khalifa asked Algeria to provide information about the hijackers because of the forged Bahraini passports held by the air pirates and to contribute toward bringing them to trial.

"We want to cooperate in revealing the nature of these hijackers to try those who disturbed the security of the world."

Sheikh Khalifa, who visited Baghdad just before the liberation of the Faw peninsula, expressed surprise that the country was developing missiles such as the Al Hussein, in spite of the eight years of war.

He said that Iraqi President Saddam Hussein was confident of his country's development plans and discussed them with the same enthusiasm as he spoke of defending his country.

The Bahraini premier remarked about the strength and confidence displayed by Saddam, saying: "He was smiling all the time."

He added: "I was pleased with the Iraqi welcome and even more pleased with the high morale of the Iraqi people."

Regarding the Gulf Cooperation Council summit, which is scheduled to be held in Bahrain in a few months, Sheikh Khalifa said as the region is passing through so many changes, the summit would have a character reflecting this.

"The Gulf arena has witnessed many developments," he said, "all leading to the important fact that the GCC should have stronger solidarity."

Commenting on the uprising in the occupied territories, Sheikh Khalifa said: "We should document the events of the uprising and give it to those who try to play down the Arab rights in Palestine."

He attributed the continuation of the uprising to the improved Arab atmosphere which has prevailed since the Amman summit. He added that the uprising has been responsible for bringing Israeli brutality to world television.

Economy

Moving to Bahrain's economic situation, the premier said Bahrain's economy reflects the world economic situation.

He elaborated: "We suffer from a difficult situation... the war of oil prices has calmed down and has become more stable in the last two years."

He explained that if the reduction called for by Opec members in world oil production is followed, the prices will remain stable or increase.

"This means that many of the other economic variables, such as currency prices, will stabilise," he added.

Sheikh Khalifa said this stability would be reflected in the Bahraini economy.

He said that tourism is an important industry in Bahrain and that the development of this sector would increase the state income. He added that the Bahrain-Saudi Causeway had made transportation easy, but said: "What we want is to carry out the GCC unified economic agreement as soon as possible."

"We feel the importance of this economic link... we want to link the people of the GCC states together by all means," he added.

US to protect neutral ships

(Continued from Page 1)

skippers must request aid before an American ship renders assistance.

Currently, the Navy has 17 ships in the Gulf, including six minesweepers, and 10 others in nearby waters. The current protective effort costs \$1 million a day.

Carlucci said that he does not anticipate the new policy will require an increase in US forces.

The Marine Corps, meanwhile, declared that two officers who were listed as missing after the fighting 11 days earlier were "killed in action" and disclosed that they had reported a hostile radar had locked on their helicopter gunship before it disappeared.

US Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy indicated clearly yesterday that it is unlikely now that the UN Security Council will adopt an arms embargo resolution against Iran.

Shippers today expressed delight at a US decision to protect neutral vessels in the Gulf, but were wary of predicting an end to raids on ships by Iran and Iraq.

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ICRC chief asks Iraq, Iran to provide information on PoWs

GENEVA, April 30, (Agencies): The President of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) called on Iran yesterday to provide information on 15,000 captured Iraqi prisoners who remain unaccounted for.

Cornelio Sommaruga, speaking at a news briefing, also said Iraq had not allowed Iranian prisoners to be registered since January 1987. "Those captured since the beginning of last year have not been shown to us."

International law (the Third Geneva Convention of 1949) obliges parties to a conflict to notify the ICRC without delay about all war prisoners.

Spying

Sommaruga said there were more than 7,000 Iraqi prisoners in Iran, registered in the 1984 ICRC prison census, who were not seen when the agency's visits recommended last year.

"We have requested the Iranian authorities to grant us access or information about these 7,000 prisoners of war."

Iran banned the ICRC in October 1984 from visiting its camps after accusing its mission in Tehran of spying and provoking a riot in a prisoner of war camp.

The ICRC said the ban was due to a dispute over conditions

for such humanitarian visits.

Sommaruga added: "There are 8,000 names of (Iraqi) PoWs (in Iran) of which they are aware because they have sent Red Cross family messages through our central-tracing agency. But they have never been registered."

The chief of the all-Swiss humanitarian agency said he had appealed to Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati, in talks three weeks ago, to grant the ICRC full access to Iraqi PoWs.

"It should not be too difficult to tell us where they are because we were able to hand over the names," Sommaruga said.

Since the Gulf war broke out in September 1980, ICRC delegates have registered a total of 49,285 Iraqi prisoners of war in 15 camps in Iran, through the end of 1987.

They also registered 12,747 Iranian prisoners in 10 Iraqi camps through the same period.

Sommaruga repeated the ICRC's condemnation of the use of chemical weapons in the Gulf war.

In a wide-ranging talk, Sommaruga also said the ICRC was prepared to play a role in Afghanistan complementing that of the UN High Commission for Refugees, which is to oversee the repatriation of an estimated 5.2

million Afghan refugees following an agreement for the withdrawal of Soviet troops from that country.

Soviet troops are to begin withdrawing May 15 under a UN-sponsored agreement signed in Geneva earlier this month.

Sommaruga said the ICRC has developed a "contingency plan" for possible operations inside Afghanistan, for example to assist displaced Afghans, but he declined to give the proposed budget. He said a decision would be made after an ICRC survey was completed.

Sommaruga also confirmed that during his recent visit to Cuba, Fidel Castro agreed to allow the ICRC to visit some political prisoners in Cuba. These would be the first such visits since Castro came to power nearly 30 years ago.

Sommaruga said the visits were expected to begin this year, but that he did not have a precise date. He said an ICRC Official was in Havana working out final details.

"We insist that the authorities allow us to define the category of the persons to be visited and to visit them all. Allow us to register all of these people. Allow us to meet with them alone and allow us to repeat the visits if necessary at a later time," he said.



Al Nouri and ministry officials view one of the exhibits at the Technical Fair at the Nasser School in Salmiya.

Tunisia wants an Arab summit soon

TUNISIAN Prime Minister El Hadi Baccouche has said his country will employ its diplomacy for a speedy convocation of an Arab summit conference which is hoped to rally support for the Palestinian uprising in the Israeli-occupied territories.

"We in Tunisia, government and people, have blessed the uprising because we firmly believed that it was the right path toward self-determination, independence and the creation of a powerful Palestinian entity," Baccouche said in an interview published in a Kuwaiti newspaper yesterday.

The Arab summit, suggested by Algeria, is tentatively scheduled for June.

The Tunisian Premier, who was interviewed in Khartoum during a brief visit there last week, said his country supports

Iraq in the Gulf war "without reservations" and at the same time calls for a negotiated end of the conflict on basis of Security Council resolution 598.

Responding to a query, Baccouche spoke highly of the Gulf Cooperation Council saying the formation of the group was "a pioneering experiment" which, he hoped, would be copied by other Arab countries.

He added that the Arab Maghreb states were pursuing the same goal of setting up a united economic and political group but he pointed out that there were "challenges" barring those countries from the attainment of the objective. He did not elaborate.

Baccouche, however, appeared optimistic and recalled that his country had significantly improved its relations with its neighbours, Algeria and Libya.

All set for Quran contest

KUALA LUMPUR, April 30, (Kuna): All is set for the 29th international Quranic recitation assembly and examination to be held in the Malaysian capital beginning on Monday.

Twenty-two countries will take part in the four-day assembly to be declared open by the Malaysian paramount ruler, the Yang Di-Pertuan Agong.

The countries are Kuwait, host Malaysia, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Iraq, United Arab Emirates, Jordan, Syria, Iran, Chad, Pakistan, Morocco, Bangladesh, Maldives, India, Sri Lanka, Mali, Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, Brunei and Singapore.

Announcing this here today, the chairman of the organising committee, Haji Kamaruddin Mat Isa said, 31 readers, comprising 22 men and nine women, would be participating.

Judges

Last year 33 people from 23 countries took part and Iran's representative Ali Sayyah Gordji emerged champion in the men's section and Hajah Sapinah Mamat of Malaysia was champion in the women's section.

Kamaruddin said this year the number of judges would be increased from nine to 10 with the latest addition being from Brunei.

The other judges are from

Sheikh Sultan passes away

RAS AL KHAIMA, April 30, (Kuna): Diwan of the ruler of Ras Al Khaima and member of the Supreme Council of the United Arab Emirates, Sheikh Saqr Bin Mohammed Al Qassemi today announced the death of Sheikh Sultan Bin Salem Bin Sultan Al Qassemi who passed away last night.

All local institutions, federal cabinet ministries offices in the emirate and banks will be closed for three days starting today while the flags will be flown at half mast for a week in commemoration of the deceased.

He said that Turkish meat cannot be kept in the fridge for a long time because they tend to lose colour and shape.

He said that Chinese meat was better in quality than Turkish meat, but customers preferred the Turkish meat. He added that Chinese sheep were not given as wedding presents.

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Al Nouri opens Private Schools Technical Fair

KUWAIT'S Education Minister and Acting Higher Education Minister Anwar Al Nouri recently inaugurated the Private Schools Technical Fair at the Nasser School in Salmiya.

The ceremony was attended by the Assistant Undersecretary for Private Education Dr. Yaqoub Al Sharrar, the director of Private Education Abdullah Al Muhanna and a number of ministry officials.

Saddam-Assad meeting report denied

BAGHDAD, April 30, (Kuna): Iraq News Agency has denied a report issued by a Kuwaiti paper about possible meeting between Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and his Syrian counterpart Hafez Al Assad.

The daily yesterday quoted unidentified Arab sources as saying that there is an expected meeting between Assad and Saddam during the coming weeks.

The sources based their expectations on Iraq's recapturing of the Faw peninsula on April 18, in addition to the recent meeting held between Assad and Palestine Liberation Organisation chairman Yasser Arafat last week.

The news agency said these reports are "baseless and untrue," adding that the Syrian government's stance is known and has not changed.

CSC considering housing allowance

STOPPING government accommodation for civil servants and giving them an allowance instead is being considered by the Civil Service Council according to a local newspaper.

It said the council was studying a draft law on the project submitted by Finance Minister Jassem Al Khorafi.

The council asked the ministry to nominate a representative of assistant undersecretary status to attend the meetings at which the council will study the draft law in order to explain details and legal aspects.

The application of such a law will save several million dinars for the state and allow civil servants to live in houses or flats as they wanted.

ROYAL COURT

Amiri audiences

H.H. the Amir yesterday received H.H. the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah and Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed Al Sabah.

The Amir also received Bahrain's Minister of Justice and Islamic Affairs, Sheikh Abdullah Bin Khalid Al Khalifa, who delivered a message to the Amir from the Amir of Bahrain Sheikh Issa Bin Salman Al Khalifa.

Bahraini Housing Minister Sheikh Khalid Bin Abdullah Al Khalifa, Kuwaiti Justice and Legal Affairs Minister Dhari Abdullah Al Othman and Bahrain's Ambassador to Kuwait attended the meeting.

Amiri cables

H.H. the Amir yesterday sent a cable of congratulation to King Gustaf of Sweden and Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands on the occasion of their countries' National Day.

Crown Prince audience

H.H. the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah yesterday received at his office in the Council of Ministers, the Interior Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sabah, the Defence Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed, the State Minister for Cabinet Affairs Rashed Al Rashed, the Public Health Minister Dr Abdul Razzak Al Abdul Razzak, Education Minister and Minister of Higher Education Anwar Abdullah Al Nouri, Governor of Ahmadi Sheikh Ali Sabah Al Salem and the US Ambassador to Kuwait Wilson Nathaniel Howell.

KUWAIT PRESS DIGEST

Iranian leaders urged to stop the conflict

A KUWAITI daily yesterday urged the Iranian leaders to stop the bloody conflict and to realise that the eight years of destructive war is a plot that aims at exhausting the capabilities of Iraq and Iran.

Al Rai Al Aam affirmed that Iran's feeling of being isolated from the whole world "has pushed it to commit stupid acts," adding that the Iranian regime "has registered political and diplomatic retreats on various fronts and on more than one occasion."

The newspaper stressed that it is now for the Iranian officials to "abandon their stubbornness," to be more realistic when evaluating the situation and to realise that the war is an international plot targeting the two Muslim countries in addition to the whole Islamic world.

First aid training course

THE secretary-general of the Kuwait Medical Society, Dr. Badr Hamada, said 219 persons had participated in the second first aid training course which had just ended.

He said the course was at university level and graduates will receive accredited graduation certificates.

He said that only 26 persons attended the first training course which was held on a secondary education level.

Both courses lasted 25 days.

Dr. Badr said everybody should be encouraged to undergo first aid training because it was useful in emergencies.

Decrease of ozone in atmosphere, a grave problem facing the world

THE decrease in the percentage of ozone in the atmosphere is one of the major grave problems facing the world, a specialist in environmental sciences, Dr. Mustafa Talabeh, said.

He told the Seyassah newspaper that the decrease in the ozone percentage was brought about by the disposal of chemicals.

He said the ozone layers acted as a filter against dangerous cosmic rays and reduced their penetration into the earth's atmosphere. The gradual destruction of the ozone layer would result in serious problems including skin cancer, cataract and AIDS, due to penetration of these rays.

Ultraviolet rays, for example,

lessened the efficiency of the human immune system and people could develop illnesses similar to those caused by the AIDS virus.

Dr. Talabeh said at least 20 million people suffered from skin cancer in the United States as a result of the numerous chemical and nuclear activities carried out there.

Oil spills

He pointed out that plants were not immune to cosmic rays, and crops were bound to be affected.

He said that 15 million acres suffered from encroachment of the desert each year according to recent statistics. He added that

UN committees and organisations were studying ways to prevent desertification and other drought problems.

He said pollution of the sea by oil was one of the gravest problems of the present day. Oil spills resulting from damage to oil tankers affected all marine life, which was a major source of food.

Dr. Talabeh said that the rise in temperature over the next 40 years would result in the thawing of icebergs around the Poles and cause a rise in the level of oceans.

He said it was very important to study the negative effects on the environment caused by nuclear activities and experiments.

UMO wants AI to revoke decision on fare

THE action committee formed by the United Malayalee Organisation (UMO) to try to make Air India withdraw its decision to cancel existing discounts on flights from Gulf countries held a meeting on April 28, presided over by the convenor Augustine Alanoical.

The committee decided to arrange sending the maximum number of protest letters, with a target of 100,000, from individuals to the Prime Minister of India requesting his personal intervention in the matter. It also decided to coordinate participation of all Indian nationals in this campaign through various organisations existing in Kuwait and other Gulf countries.

The UMO press release expressed the hope that Air India would not force Indians to depend on other airlines.

It asked individuals and organisations to contact Warrier, tel No. 5639630 (residence) and Augustine, tel No. 2412986 (residence) and 4812237 (office).

Three beheaded for murder

DAMMAM, April 30, (Reuters): Three Filipinos and a Saudi national were beheaded in Saudi Arabia for committing murders, bringing to at least four the number of people executed on Friday, an Interior Ministry statement said.

The statement said two Filipinos were beheaded in Dammam, eastern Saudi Arabia, for murdering four Filipinos a year ago in a robbery.

In the southern region town of Tabouk, the statement said, a Saudi national was executed for killing four people and injuring two others, apparently in a family row.

Thani Aet Shamlani Al Anzi, using a machinegun and pistol, killed two men and two women and wounded two adults.

An earlier statement said a Pakistani national was beheaded in Riyadh on Friday for trying to smuggle 2.4 kg (5.3 pounds) of hashish in his briefcase.

Contract signed

PUBLIC Works Minister Abdul Rahman Al Houti yesterday signed a one million dinar contract with a local company for minor construction work and maintenance of roads in different parts of the country.

The working period, fixed by the contract, is 730 days.

Dhahar area lacks many public amenities

A LARGE number of Al Dhahar area residents who have been moved by the National Housing Authority (NHA) to temporary accommodation at Sawaber project apartments have said that Al Dhahar area lacks many public services.

They told a local newspaper that the area had a population of about 20,000 but did not have a police station, fire brigade station or cooperative society. There were also no banks or municipality centres, they added.

Post office

Letters addressed to them took more than three months to reach them because there was no post office, they said.

Some residents complained of houses for bachelors in the area, and said that some youths broke window panes.

They thanked the police, fire brigade and NHA for their efforts in evacuating some of the homes, especially those close to the hole.

They say they want to return to their homes as soon as possible after completion of all necessary tests and research.

Sixty houses were evacuated in Al Dhahar area, and policemen are guarding the houses until the residents return.

One of the residents, Ibrahim Al Sayrafi, told the newspaper he lived in the fourth house behind the sub-station and close to the hole. He was informed by the NHA that he would return to the

house but he refused although he was uncomfortable at the Sawaber project. He pointed out that the house had some faults that needed to be fixed before he moved in. He added that the NHA tried to rectify the fault four times but the problem had not been solved yet. He explained that the ceiling kept falling down.

Another resident, Abdullah Al Kandari, an employee at Mubarak Al Kabir Hospital who is living in a fifth floor flat at Sawaber, also said he was informed by the NHA that he could return to Al Dhahar. He said he did not like living in an apartment and was willing to return at any time.

Fawiq Shaji said he will return to his house at Al Dhahar because he and his family were now sleeping on the floor at their temporary accommodation at Sawaber. He said they had not brought any furniture with them.

11,000 cases in 1987

THE Law Enforcement Department at Kuwait's Ministry of Justice was responsible for 11,000 cases in 1987, according to annual ministry statistics.

The department enforced about 15,623 travel bans in 1987 compared to 13,451 in 1986.

During 1987, 991 seizure orders were issued in addition to 898 release orders.

Various breeds in market help stabilise sheep prices

THERE are various breeds of sheep at the local sheep market and this has helped the price of Arabian sheep to stabilise and not rise sharply.

Most Kuwaitis go to the sheep market to buy meat, especially during festivals, weddings and other celebrations.

Sheep owners say that the sheep market is most active during Ramadan and sheep prices rise.

A salesman at the Safat sheep market, Saad Al Ghazali, said sales were affected by the season, with sales in Ramadan being relatively higher.

Sales of Arabian sheep were affected when people turned to other types of sheep.

He said that another factor facing the market was the rules set by some Bedouin tribes to set the limit of KD20 for wedding gifts instead of giving sheep.

Better sales occurred during

the past wedding season but after dowries were limited the sheep sales dropped.

He said some sheep merchants did not care about market conditions and all they cared about was more profits.

He said that sales were higher during Ramadan and this made the prices rise slightly. A Turkish sheep sold for KD27.

Tiring

Another salesman, Naser Affar, said he had worked in this profession for six years. He said working during Ramadan was tiring, adding they were at the market from 4 to 3pm without rest. He said sales were best one week prior to Ramadan and continued at this level for the first ten days of the holy month.

Satar Saud Al Badri said most customers could not distinguish between Arabian and Turkish meat in spite of the big difference in the prices.

Ahmad Abdul Latif Al Adsani brothers and family

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H.E. the Minister of Public Health,

Dr. Abdul Razzaq Yousef Al Abdul Razzaq,

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Dr. Yousef Ahmad Al Nisf,

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Dr. Ahmad Mohammad Al Sbail,

Dr. Torgny Nilsson,

Dr. Andrew Swai,

Dr. Sameer Ziyab,

Dr. Iyad Askar Al Shimmari,

Dr. Abdullah Al Hamadi,

Dr. Suad Hussein,

Dr. Wafa Saleh Bokhamseen

and all nursing staff in wards No.3 and 18 at the Mubarak Al Kabir Hospital for the great care they accorded to our mother during her stay at the hospital, to whom we owe the success of the surgery performed on our mother following her admission, in critical condition to the hospital from Mowasat Hospital.

May God reward them generously.

A night out for a good cause



Palestinian dabke dancers (file photo from Kuwait Folk concert, 1987)

A BRITISH-PALESTINIAN singer and a group of enthusiasts from Britain and Kuwait are putting on a charity show called "I Got Rhythm" on June 2 at the Regency Palace Hotel.

The one-night variety show is for the British-based charity Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP) patronised by Dr Pauline Cutting, OBE. Dr Cutting's book "Children of the Siege" is well-known for focusing on the plight of the Palestinian refugee children.

The lead vocalist at the show will be Reem Kelani. Reem, who is member of Kuwait Singers, ACT, Kuwait Folk Group and the Kuwait Players, has appeared in several musicals staged by amateur

theatrical groups in Kuwait. She joined Kuwait Players this February and debuted in Winter Serenade.

The group got the idea after a charity show for Palestinians was held in Britain recently. "When the British could raise money for refugees, why couldn't we?" asks Reem, who seems to be the driving force behind the effort to raise funds for MAP.

MAP was established after the massacres at Sabra and Chatilla under a deed of trust "for the relief of poverty and sickness... and education... among refugees and displaced persons, particularly... refugees from Palestine". In 1972, it started as Palestinian Medical Aid and was relaun-

ched in 1984 as MAP. Among the initiators were several British and other citizens who had been in Lebanon in 1982 and witnessed the horrors of Israeli invasion that year.

"MAP's work is purely humanitarian; we are careful to avoid political activity or statements," said Reem.

MAP workers cooperate with UNWRA, Unicef, Save the Children, Oxfam, War on Want and Norwa and other groups which have parallel and complementary interests.

MAP is devoted to helping "non-combatant victims of war" and sends volunteers and specialised medical teams from Britain to Lebanon and supports health and welfare institutions in the West Bank and



Reem Kelani: a woman with a cause

Gaza Strip.

The Kuwait show was organised after overcoming several hurdles. The name "Palestinians" seemed to put off a large number of people, who were wary of political implications. "Once people understood it was non-political and in aid of refugees, they came forward to help," said one member of the group. After overcoming the initial teething problems they are now rehearsing for the show, "I Got Rhythm" concert.

Rhythm is aplenty. Reem and her team are to put a Western musical show with an Oriental touch. Lebanese songs originally sung by Fairouz and a selection of numbers from British and American musicals

are to be performed by Reem. Songs by Barbra Streisand and Liza Minelli are also included in the programme, interspersed with Palestinian dabke folk dancing. If past shows are any indication, this one should be a winner with toe-tapping music and oriental dancing.

The show will be followed by dinner. Though a large number of people are helping to organise the show, the group urgently needs musicians and backstage helpers.

Tickets for the charity show costs K.D.10 per person and can be booked by ringing 2627003. Those interested in helping can also contact the organisers on the same telephone number.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 1.00 Holy Quran
- 1.10 Tao Tao: cartoons
- 1.30 Magazine D'Actualite
- 2.00 Al Maotamid Bin Ibaad: Historical serial.
- 3.00 On Ramadan: guests are Dr Abdullah Shihata, Dr Abdul Suboor Shahin.
- 3.35 Dukkan Al Duniya: Arabic serial, featuring Muna Wasaf, Mohammad Al Ibad, Jayana Eid.
- 4.45 Tazzawaj Wa Ibtasama Lihayat: featuring Samir Ghanim, Raghdah, Ahmad Badr.
- 5.30 Hadith religious talk
- 6.30 Cartoons
- 6.45 After Iftar
- 7.00 Madinat Al Riyah: children's serial, starring Khalid Al Obaid, Abdul Rahman Al Aqal, Jassim
- 2.20 News Summary: Im-

Nabhan, Mohammad Jaber, Huda Hussein.

- 8.00 Nazrat Al Alam: cultural film
- 8.15 Diwanat Shuara Al Nab: poetry session
- 9.00 Deirat Al Khair: religious programme hosted by Huda Hussein
- 10.00 News in Arabic
- 11.00 Iz'aj: local serial, featuring Ghanem Al Saleh, Maryam Al Ghadban, Dawood Hussein.
- 12.00 Late Night Serial: part one of a new serial, to be announced.
- 1.00 Qabl Al Wida'a: Arabic film, starring Hussein Fahmi, Yusra, Abdul Munim Ibrahim. An emotional story of a dying woman and her relationship with a doctor, who is unable to help her. Directed by Hussain Wakil.
- 2.20 News Summary: Im-

ah Holy Quran: Closedown

KTV 2

- 8.00 Holy Quran
- 8.10 The Care Bears: cartoons
- 8.30 Danger Bay: a rare species of fossil fish
- 9.00 News in English
- 9.40 Islamic Horizon
- 9.50 Islam and Muslim
- 10.40 Flying Doctors
- 11.30 Together We Stand: Jack is just a little dishonest while doing his homework and has to pay for it. Comedy, starring Elliot Gould, Dee Wallace, Katie O'Neill, Ke Huy Quan, Natasha Bho and Scott Grimes.
- 12.00 Best Seller: Alamo: Western. The Texan rebel against interference from the central government.
- 1.30 News Summary: Magazine d'Actualite: closedown.



Elliot Gould, Dee Wallace Stone and Ke Huy Quan star in tonight's comedy, Together We Stand, on KTV-2.

WHAT'S ON

THEATRE

Kuwait Players
Antidote—a Kuwait Players show of quick fire adult comedy sketches ranging from the subtle to the plain crazy — an evening of laughter will be held from May 11 to 15, 7.30 pm, at the Universal American School, Salwa. Tickets — KD 3. For reservations call 5613465; 5610925 (pm) or 5611546 (pm).

Kuwait Singers
"Songs for a Summer Evening" is the title of a concert by the Singers. It will be held on May 31 and June 1 at the UAS, Salwa. Tickets — KD 2. For reservations ring 3940770 ext. 57; 5384873; 5740627 (answering service).

ARTS

Sultan Gallery
"The Islamic Heritage of Spain" is open daily from 10 am to 1 pm and 7 to 10 pm at the Sultan Gallery, Thumayan Al Ghanim Bldg, Al Soor St.

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Al Ahlam Pharmacy
Souk Muttahada, Fahad Al Salem St.
Al Ameen Pharmacy
Behbehani Complex, Jaber Al Mubarak St.

Hawalli and Nagra
Al Rihab Pharmacy
Rihab Complex, Tunis St.

Salamiya and Rumailiya
Al Fida Pharmacy
Ahmed Jarallah bldg., Khansa St.

Fahabheel and Ahmadi
Al Wafa Pharmacy
Dabbous St., Fahabheel

Khaitan
Al Khaitan Pharmacy
Ibrahim Bin Adham St.

Jahra
Al Zahra Pharmacy
New Souk

Iwan Gallery
An exhibition of paintings by Iraqi artist, Saa'di Abbas is open daily from 10 am to 1 pm and 8 to 11 pm at the gallery in the Zahra Complex, Salamiya.

SOCIAL

Summer Affair 88
The Weekend Club will host Summer Affair 88 at the Regency Palace Hotel on the first day of Eid Al Fitr. Music by Next of Kin, Top Ranks and Apaches. A talent contest with lots of surprises and prizes. Show will be compered by David Burfoot and Julio Cordoz. Dinner features Indian and Continental cuisine. For reservations call Raven — 4714518; Mercedes 4890566; Carmello — 4835488/232.

YMCA Holiday Special
The Young Men Cricket Association (YMCA) will hold the Holiday Special on May 17. Messiah Beach Hotel. Highlights are music by Top Ranks with special competitions such as Made for Each Other Contest, Funky King and Queen. For reservations contact Lancy — 4814914, 9 am to 4 pm. 3981790; 3929518, 5 to 8 pm.

Swedish Ladies Meeting
Swedish ladies monthly meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 3, 4 pm, at the residence of Mrs Barbro Ericson-Peterson in Surra.

SPORTS

Kuwait Novads Rugby Club
May Calendar: May 1: Full match at Fintas; kick off — 7.30 pm; attendance compulsory for Cyprus tourists; all others welcome. Match followed by tour meeting to pay outstanding monies.
Thursday, May 5: Game at Fintas. Men's Women plus kids. Game followed by BBQ. KD 2,500 per head.
Tuesday, May 10: Club annual general meeting at Gazette Club, 7.30 pm.
Young Goans Association
Seven-a-side football tournament on May 17, Al Sour Ground. Draw on same day at 7.30 am. Tournament begins at 7.45 am. For details contact Almeida on 4813740.
Laser Sailing
Single Design Dinghy Sailing Club is being formed. Laser sailing enthusiasts contact Ken Balman on 5624111 ext. 751/739.

Bengalis produce Hindi play

THE Indian-Bengalis are taking the bold step of putting on the first Hindi play in Kuwait. The Bengali Cultural Society has finally got its act together and will stage Bichchan, a Hindi play, in June. It will be the first time that the Indian community has produced a full Hindi drama.

So far, the society has been staging Bengali plays as part of their annual social calendar. They are now "experimenting" with Hindi plays.

"We hope to attract Hindi and Urdu speakers," said director Himansu Bhaumik. Last year, Bhaumik directed a Bengali play entitled "Kanchan Ranga".

Bichchan is based on a story by Bengali playwright Mahasweta Devi and has been written by Harinadhab Mukherjee. Set in a small village bordering Bengal and Bihar, it tells the story of class struggle between a wealthy land-owner and farm labourers. The protagonist is Dulan, a firm believer that



Swapan plays Lachman Singh, the landlord, with Subir.

protests would only lead to more cruelty. Dulan, however, changes and ultimately revolts against the system.

The cast includes old and new faces from the society and includes such familiar performers as Keka Mukherjee, Sidd-

hartha Deb, Satya Chakrabarty, Kalyan Majumdar, Pampa Mandal, Chandrabali Ghosh, Pannalal Santra, Parimal Dey, Biren Mallik, Bibhutoh Roy and Somesh Gupta. Bengalis making their debut are Dipankar Chakrabarty, Arabinda Ghosh and Subir Sengupta. Mrs Krishna Majumdar is giving them lessons in Hindi diction.

Rehearsals are in full swing for the ambitious production. If successful, the society hopes to make Hindi productions a regular feature.

For further reservations call 3916789; 3901806; 4895836.



Dipankar and Keka play Dulan and Basni.



Dipankar, Pannalal, Chandrabali and Biren rehearsing a scene for Bichchan.

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B. Experienced in designing pipelines and water networks.
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CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
Let's Get Harry
Starring: Mark Harmon, Robert Duvall
Al Salamiya
Brazil
Starring: Jonathan Price, Robert De Nero
Al Hamra
Hikayat Nus Miloon
Dolaar (Arabic)
Starring: Yahya Fakhrani, Ilham Shahin
Drive-In
Bustaan Al Dam (Arabic)
Starring: Adel Adham, Yusra
Al Firdous
Jaun Hatheli Pe (Hindi)
Starring: Dharmendra, Hema Malini
Fahabheel Open Air
Tun Hasin Main Jawan (Hindi)

Al Fahabheel
Jaitra Yatra (Malayalam)
Al Jahra
Tarkeeb (Hindi)
Granada
Silsila (Hindi)
Starring: Amitabh Bachchan, Rekha
Sulaibikhat
Battle of Nertva
Al Jleeb
No Dead Heroes
Ahmadi Drive-In
Flash Point

PRAYERS

Fajr	3.39 am
Zuhr	11.45
Asr	3.21 pm
Maghreb	6.25
Isha	7.47

Modern art 'adventure'

MODERN art is an "achievement" and an "exciting adventure" for Iraqi artist Saa'di Abbas. An exhibition of his paintings opened yesterday at the Iwan Gallery, Zahra Complex, in Salamiya.

Abbas seems to invent form and builds up his canvas, preserving his ties with the ancient art of Mesopotamia. His aesthetic adventures bring out the essence, the hidden essence.

Saa'di is said to have given a new dimension to modern art in Iraq. Through his work, he talks about humanitarian issues.

The 34-year-old artist has held several one-man shows in the Arab world. This is his first show in Kuwait.

The exhibition is open daily from 10 am to 1 pm and 8 to 11 pm at the Iwan Gallery.



One of the paintings on show.

By Ivor Davis

Donald Sutherland's son makes it to the big time

Hollywood's new bad boy



Kiefer Sutherland (left) has good guy Michael J. Fox straying from the straight path in Bright Lights, Big City.



Sutherland, Phoebe Cates and Michael J. Fox in Bright Lights, Big City.

HOLLYWOOD: Bad boys have always captured the imagination of moviegoers. From James Dean to Mickey Rourke, the unshaven, hung-over male star in the sleazy suit has been a celluloid staple for decades. Make way for the newest member of the fraternity, a contemporary anti-hero, the dark side of the all-American boy, Kiefer Sutherland.

In his latest film *Bright Lights, Big City* based on the Jay McInerney best seller, Sutherland plays Tad Allagash, a free-wheeling advertising executive in New York City whose hedonistic charm has good-guy Jazzy Conway (Michael J. Fox) straying from the straight and narrow.

Conway will right himself by the end of the story. But Sutherland's character will sink to greater depths of depravity. It's something about his eyes, which are red-rimmed from nights without rest and constant contact with cigarette smoke, his five-day beard growth and the puffiness in his face.

The 21-year-old actor bears a keen resemblance to his famous father, Donald Sutherland, whose gaunt face atop a lean 6-foot-4-inch frame was a symbol of a disaffected America in the 1960s and '70s. But they have more in common than their looks. Both have specialised in playing offbeat characters on the edge. They can be sinister or benevolent, menacing or nurturing, but they are never ordinary.

"I do have an attraction to those characters," says Sutherland. "I think because of the power they hold in the story line. In *Stand By Me* and *Lost Boys* (1987) my characters were off-beat and the two films that have been noticed."

In *Stand By Me* Sutherland portrayed the sadistic, mindless leader of a gang of bullies. In *Lost Boys* his friends were rock 'n' roll friends. He played a psycho in *The Killing Time* (1987), a lost soul in *Promised Land* (1988) and an anti-war hippie in his forthcoming 1989.

His impact on-screen has little to do with how often he appears in a film or the number of lines he recites. The camera senses his strangeness and revels in it. It's why he has 10

films behind him. It's why he is the perfect antidote to the Fox character in *Bright Lights*.

Sutherland sits in his suite at the Plaza Hotel wearing a suit

and drinking tea. He has just returned from plugging *Bright Lights* on the Today show. The place is wrong, so is the suit. But the film, he says, is right.

"It's about addiction, and the central character (Fox) is addicted to a series of things: cocaine, work and me. My character supplies a coolness

and laxness in life that has an addictive quality for people who are not like that," he says.

According to Sutherland, his own compulsions are different than the bright lights, discos and drugs in *Bright Lights*. The actor, who has been on his own since he was 15, is married to a Puerto Rican-born actress 19 years his senior and the father of two daughters — his wife's 11-year-old from her previous marriage and their baby girl born in March.

Born Kiefer William Frederick Dempsey George Rufus Sutherland, his parents' marriage broke up when he was 4. At 8 he was taken by his mother, actress Shirley Douglas, to live in Toronto where he rarely saw his father.

"My father's success was evident to me as a child, but it was so distant. I didn't understand it until I left home," he says.

Now, he says, father and son are closer. "All of a sudden we have a medium in which to talk. As I got older we had more to say to each other, more conversations and our relationship developed from there," he says.

"It's hard to say whether or not my resemblance to my father was an obstacle. I've been working for seven years and there were times when it was frustrating because people refused to take me seriously. I was always able to work in the theatre, but trying to get a film was difficult. It wasn't my dad's fault, though, and things worked out well for me so it's hard to complain about anything. I've been fortunate," he says.

The fruits of success are all around him. He drives a new Saab and lives in a minivan near the shores of the Pacific. All that early instability makes home and family the centre of his existence.

Meanwhile, beyond the domestic sphere, his career is in high gear. With two films coming out (*Bright Lights*, 1989), he began making another almost immediately, a Western titled *Young Guns*, co-starring Lou Diamond Phillips, Charlie Sheen and Emilio Estevez.

He's so busy, in fact, that he may not have time to do a film with his father.

"Maybe in the future, but not now," he says. "First we would have to find the right project, then we would have to find the time."

Raquel Welch's best asset: her IQ

By Joan Hanauer

NEW YORK, (UPI): Raquel Welch has spent years proving that people shouldn't confuse her IQ with her other measurements.

The sex symbol who raised a lot of blood pressures in 1966 when she appeared in a fur bikini in the movie *One Million B.C.* also raised a lot of eyebrows when she took over for Lauren Bacall in the Broadway musical *Woman of the Year* back in 1982 and won rave reviews.

She has continued to battle for roles that give her a chance to show off her talent. Last October she played a most unglamorous role on television — a terminally ill woman — in *Right to Die*, which earned her a Golden Globe nomination.

Her latest role gives her a chance to have the best of both worlds. In *Scandal in a Small Town*, she plays a small-town cocktail waitress who has something important to say, only no one will listen.

"I play Leda Beth, who is a mother and a floozy," Welch said in an interview. "One reason I liked this script is because I have dealt with a teenage daughter myself and I know the problems of raising a young woman who at that age is going to reject you and your ideas and will challenge your authority and seek out her own identity."

Welch, 47, and her daughter, Tahnee, 26, have weathered all that and Welch is the stereotypical proud mama when she says Tahnee currently is in Miami making the sequel to the hit movie *Cocoon*.

"I had my children when I was very young (her son, Damon, is 28) and while I didn't pursue a career as a cocktail waitress, I can tell you it isn't easy," Welch said.

"One of the things that intrigued me about the Leda Beth part was that one of the reasons she was discounted was because she was a cocktail waitress in a rather sexy way. We all know that makes you a big target. If there's any sexual connotation about you, people like to use you as a dashboard. And they discount you on any other level."



Raquel Welch wants to be taken seriously

"It's almost part of our constitution — you can't have intellectual capacity and have sexiness. It's another form of prejudice — a way to discount another human being."

She dumped up her attitude toward her sex symbol status when she once said, "My body is just there — like Mount Rushmore."

She said *Scandal in a Small Town* was a welcome antidote to *Right to Die*.

"I couldn't have taken on another heavy thing right now," she said.

People are still approaching her to say they have someone sick in their family and to thank her for portraying the role of a woman determined to die with dignity.

"I had my own example pretty close to home," she said. "My mother-in-law died with such dignity and peace and lack of bitterness, it made me know that it was possible, to make the metamorphosis from one state of being to another without anger or fear. Aside from the sadness of losing her, it was a very beautiful experience to be part of."

Welch obviously has had her problems in getting people to take her seriously as an actress.

"I went to Los Angeles," the Chicago-born actress said. "I really wanted to go to New York and work in the theatre, maybe off-Broadway. But I couldn't tackle the big apple on those days. I was still a teenager myself and I had two kids." She was signed by 20th Century-Fox, made *One Million B.C.*, and by the time she made *Fantastic Voyage* the same year she was on her way to stardom as a major sex symbol.

"I've been living it up — or down — ever since," she said.

Welcome departure for David Cronenberg

Turning away from horror

By Gary Regenstein

TORONTO. (Reuters): Exploding heads, hungry parasites and a scientist's gruesome metamorphosis into a fly have taken their toll on master of horror films David Cronenberg.

For the Toronto film-maker, the art of turning stomachs is losing its appeal and he describes *Twins*, his new psychological thriller starring Jeremy Irons, as a welcome departure in a maturing career.

His earlier films have included *Shivers*, *Rabid*, *Scanners*, *Videodrome* and *The Fly*.

"I've been enjoying special effects less and less," says Cronenberg, at 45 looking boyish and bookish in sweatshirt and glasses. "It's sort of like a toy. When you start off, it's very exciting."

"But it's very painstaking to shoot effects and I've been really enjoying working with the actors more than the kind of filmmaking that's involved in science fiction or horror."

Though plagued by financial problems from the start, *Twins* is now being filmed in Cronenberg's hometown of Toronto and is due for release this autumn.

The film explores the lives of identical twins Elliot and Beverly Mantle, both played by Irons. They are inseparable siblings who grow up to become gynaecologists who share everything from their clinic to women.

They confront the strange tie that binds them when one brother falls in love with an actress, Claire (Genevieve Bujold), and wants to sever those bonds.

Irons, who starred in *The Mission*, faces the challenge of keeping the screen alive playing opposite himself.

"Acting is like tennis in a way. The better your opponent is the better you become," Irons said.

"I always hope for a really good opposite number who will push me further. When it's really surprise myself — I've thought about how I'm playing both sides. It could get dull when we're playing together."

While devoid of much of the fantasy of previous works, *Twins* still examines the darker side of human psychology and behaviour.

"Mostly my movies are centred on the human body and therefore on ageing and

death," said Cronenberg. "It's not a horror film, it's not a science fiction film but it does deal with those images and subjects. It is a more realistic film and that is the real point of departure."

Realism has not been the stuff of Cronenberg's world. Some of his movies are rife with fantastical disease and biological anomalies.

Obsessed

"My characters are obsessed with science and medicine as a means of trying to understand their own existence, which tends to lead them to madness."

The departure comes despite the acclaim of *The Fly*, his latest and most financially successful film that won an Oscar in the special effects/make up category two years ago.

"I can't say I won't do anything like *The Fly* again. But I did find in this picture that it was the faces and the ideas of twins and the characters that excited me. It seems more juicy and more productive and more energising."

The special effects in his new film, which take up only two or three days of shooting out of a total of 50, involve a twinning process and one or two dream sequences that are unmistakably Cronenberg.

To show the twins he is departing from the standard split screen technique. By using computer motion controlled cameras, the characters will appear not only adjacent, but also above or below each other.

They will appear to move together on the screen as if there were two Jeremy Irons.

It was the idea of confusion of identity that interested the director — that people are physically different and in *Twins* one is left to find the essence of individuals other than in physical appearance. The question, as in *The Fly*, is when the body changes, does the man stay the same?

"You can imagine the way others look at you," said the film's co-producer, Marc Boyden. "When you're an identical twin you have a rare opportunity to look at yourself."



Jeremy Irons stars in *Twins*, a new psychological thriller by the master of horror films David Cronenberg.

ARAB TIMES MONTHLY



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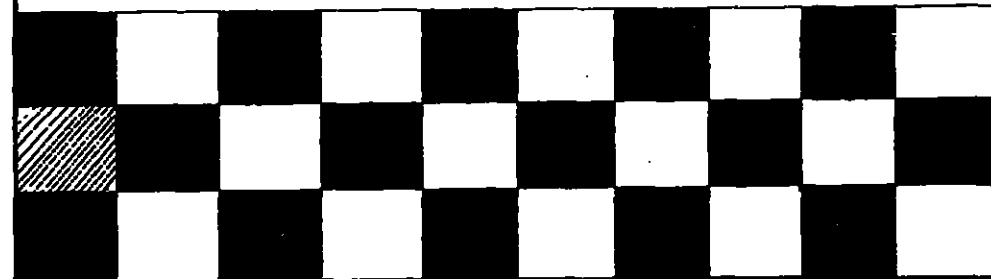
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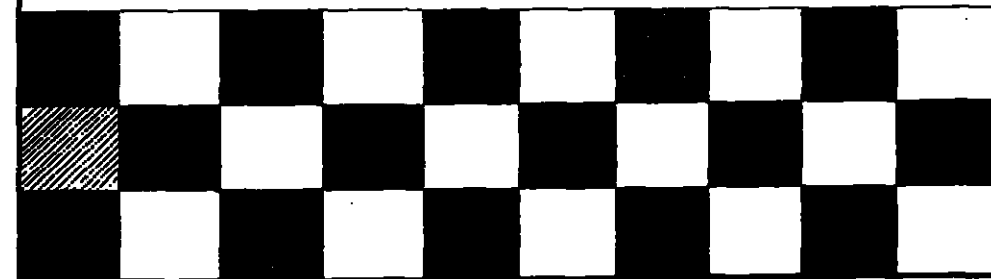
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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

In the midst of great joy do not promise to give a man anything; In the midst of great anger do not answer a man's letter — Chinese proverb

China defends sale of missiles

By Ann Scott Tyson

BEIJING: China defended its sale of intermediate-range missiles to Saudi Arabia, arguing that the arms deal was "conducive to stability" in the Middle East.

Chinese Foreign Minister, Wu Xueqian, told a press conference that Saudi Arabia had pledged not to strike first with the missiles or transfer them to other nations.

"We believe that the Saudi government will honour its commitment," Wu said in response to a reporter's question. But he did not elaborate on how the missiles would promote regional stability.

Israel indicated recently that it might launch a preemptive strike against the missiles, which are capable of carrying nuclear warheads.

"This threat on the part of Israel," said Wu, "has met with condemnation from the majority of the Arab states. We support the just position of the Arab states."

The United States has criticised the arms sale, stating that Saudi Arabia's acquisition of the missiles is detrimental to efforts to bring peace to the Middle East.

China's strong statement of support for the arms deal reflects what appears to be a growing willingness to use weapons sales to promote its diplomatic goals — and leverage — in the war-torn region.

The missiles sale may advance China's efforts to establish formal relations with Saudi Arabia, Wu indicated.

Relations

"We hope to see the earliest possible establishment of diplomatic relations with Saudi Arabia," Wu said, adding that Vice Minister Qi was "well received" during his recent visit to Saudi Arabia.

Yet China's diplomatic and financial gains from arms exports to the Middle East have come at the price of widespread international criticism, which has focused until recently on Beijing's transfer of Silkworm missiles and other weaponry to Iran and Iraq.

Wu reiterated that China has "long taken strict measures" to prevent Chinese weapons, including the Silkworms, from reaching Iran "via the international arms market."

Greece-Turkey peace efforts in trouble

By Stephen Weeks

ATHENS (Reuters): A fragile peace initiative between feuding Nato allies Greece and Turkey appeared in trouble on Tuesday after their deep divisions over the future of Cyprus erupted into a public dispute.

Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu and Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal agreed to follow a "no-war" course at a meeting in Davos, Switzerland, earlier this year.

But in a message to Ozal this week, Greece stressed that Ankara must refrain from "all acts or statements which create tensions or undermine" the Davos peace process, Greek government spokesman Yannis Roubatis said.

The message, delivered to Ozal by a special envoy, was a clear reference to recent statements by the Turkish foreign minister and a decision by the breakaway government in Turkish-occupied Cyprus to stamp the passports of visitors.

Feud

Turkish Foreign Minister Mesut Yilmaz has said repeatedly in recent weeks that the Cyprus issue was outside the Davos process for better bilateral Greek-Turkish relations.

Both governments sought to play down the recent events but it was clear their long-standing and bitter feud over the divided east Mediterranean island was spoiling efforts for better relations.

The future of Cyprus, which gained independence from Britain in 1960, is a fierce political issue in both countries, and neither government appears willing to give ground.

An attempted coup by Greek-Cypriot officers in July 1974, aimed at joining the island with Greece, crumbled when Turkish troops invaded from the nearby mainland.

Some 20,000 to 30,000 Turkish troops occupy a third of the island, and in 1983 the breakaway Turkish Republic of North Cyprus was set up, sending Greek-Turkish relations to new lows. Ankara was the only state to recognise the breakaway republic.

The feud over Cyprus has been singled out repeatedly by other Nato members as severely weakening the alliance's ability to defend its southern flank.

Sensitivity to the issue was underscored on Monday night when Turkey, keen to join the European Economic Community trading bloc, refused to join a foreign ministers meeting because the EEC insisted on mentioning Cyprus. Greece is a member of the EEC.

In Davos, Ozal and Papandreu agreed to ignore issues which have brought their countries to the brink of war on several occasions in recent years — such as Cyprus and disputed oil rights in the Aegean Sea — and to concentrate on practical steps to slowly improve relations.

But three months later the traditional issues of conflict between Greece and Turkey appear to be re-emerging.

Tensions

While the Greek envoy stressed the need for Turkey to avoid creating tensions and the Turkish foreign minister referred to the "Greek blow to the spirit of Davos," the prime ministers appeared determined to try to keep the peace initiative going.

The Greek spokesman said Papandreu's special envoy to Ankara stressed Greece's commitment to the Davos peace process, and Ozal said he hoped the process could be kept on track despite the recent events.

Among the measures agreed in Davos was a schedule of regular meetings between the prime ministers, and Ozal is due to visit Athens in mid-June. It will be the first major test of public support for the Davos process in either country.

Roh loses control of National Assembly

New era dawns in South Korean politics

By Roger Crabb

SEOUL (Reuters): The government's shock general election failure opens a new era in South Korean politics, with President Roh Tae-Woo's party — which long dictated assembly business — now needing opposition support to rule.

Roh's Democratic Justice Party (DJP) will still be the largest single group in the National Assembly following Tuesday's vote but near complete results showed it would fall well short of an overall majority.

Investors reacted with shock to the prospect of a government deprived for the first time of its parliamentary powerbase. Seoul share prices fell by nearly four per cent, their biggest daily decline.

With South Korea in the glare of world publicity as it prepares to host the Olympic Games in September, diplomats said the need for compromise and cooperation across party lines could be a big test for the fledgling democracy.

"It remains to be seen whether these politicians, used to rough, often violent confrontation in the chamber and in the streets, are now ready to trade chaos for 'cohabitation' on the French model," said one experienced observer.

Lost

Like French President Francois Mitterrand, who in 1986 lost his parliamentary majority and called in rival party leader Jacques Chirac to be Prime Minister, Roh will have to show some fancy footwork and swallow a lot of pride.

South Korean commentators hailed two victors after Tuesday's vote: Dissident Kim Dae-Jung, whose Party for Peace and Democracy (PPD) hoisted itself to second largest parliamentary group, and maverick conservative candidate Kim Jong-Pil.

Kim Jong-Pil, Prime Minister under the assassinated President Park Chung-Hee, saw the vote for his New Democratic Republican Party (NDRP) far



Roh Tae-Woo

exceeded the personal support he amassed in last December's presidential election.

With an estimated 35 seats, the NDRP could ally with the DJP to create a slim conservative majority of around 10 seats in the 299-member assembly.

"Such an alliance would relieve Roh of the need to seek a much more difficult modus

vivendi with the traditional opposition," a senior diplomat said. "But there is no sign so far that Kim is ready to take that step."

Grudge

Kim holds a deep grudge about the way Park's former colleagues were elbowed aside, and in his case dragged to court on corruption charges, after new Army strongman Chun Doo Hwan — Roh's mentor — seized power in 1980.

Asked on Wednesday what his party's attitude would be, the former premier sounded a constructive note.

"I will cooperate with other opposition parties in stopping senseless actions by the government party," Kim said, "but I would not join the opposition if it resorted to unreasonable acts such as physical abuse."

Kim Dae-Jung, South Korea's best-known dissident who spent years in jail under house arrest for battling the autocratic Park and Chun governments was ecstatic about his party's performance.

"We will take the initiative in restraining the ruling party and keeping democracy, and will continue to push for such policies as ensuring a decent livelihood for the people."

Kim's PPD leapfrogged the Reunification Democratic Party of old rival Kim Young-Sam to become the largest opposition party in parliament.

Its success was essentially due to the fanatical support the charismatic Kim commands: his native south-western Cholla province — where the party won every seat — and to that of Cholla exiles in the Seoul area.

In fact the electorate's split along regional lines was, for many commentators, one of the most disturbing aspects of Tuesday's vote.

Kim Young-Sam's RDP won the bulk of its support in the Pusan area of the south-east Kim Jong-Pil's NDRP was strongest in his native Chungcheong area, and the ruling DJP's bastion in south-eastern Kyongsang province delivered its usual big backing.

"As I feared before the elections, we now have regional parties," Kim Jong-Pil told reporters. "I'm afraid we will have difficulty in working productively in the National Assembly."

Proceedings in South Korea's parliament have not been noted for their urbanity. Twice in the past two years, after brawls and filibusters in the chamber, DJP deputies outflanked the opposition by withdrawing to a side room, with scores of guards outside, and voting through key bills on the nod.

Frustration

"The opposition's violent protests often seemed born of frustration at ever getting anything done in a one-sided chamber," a senior diplomat said.

"Maybe they will be a bit more responsible now that the government can no longer lock itself in the canteen and pass the budget."

At the very least, though, Roh and his supporters will have to brace for some unpleasant initiatives from the newly-reinforced opposition ranks.

Strike in Poland

Workers send warning signals to Jaruzelski

By Andrew Tarnowski

WARSAW (Reuters): Poland's first major strike since 1981 has sent a warning to General Wojciech Jaruzelski that the workers are feeling the economic pinch and are no longer cowed by memories of martial law.

The strike that halted public transport in Bydgoszcz for 12 hours on Monday was the first to cause major disruption in a Polish city since Jaruzelski imposed martial law to crush the Solidarity Free Trade Union.

"The situation is getting hotter and something could happen anywhere at any time," Solidarity leader Lech Walesa told reporters in Warsaw after the strike.

"Things are bad and people have to fight for better conditions whether they belong to Solidarity or not," he said.

In a surprise development, Solidarity was sidelined in Bydgoszcz as communists and official transport union members took over the strike committee and swiftly won a 60 per cent pay increase for the men.

Members of Poland's official unions, set up with government backing after Solidarity's dissolution in 1982, had never before been involved in strike action.

Settlement

The package was less than the men demanded, and was handed down as a de facto settlement after talks with authorities, but it sent the men home quickly and reasonably satisfied.

"The new unions proved that they are able to contain a protest, they can act as a fuse to contain labour unrest," commented an independent source with close links to the Communist Party.

But the official unions could find they have set an example

that may lead to further strikes, he added.

"People will know there was a strike, that the workers won money, that it was peaceful and nothing happened to anybody," the source said.

Solidarity's apparent impotence in Bydgoszcz was eerily underlined by a familiar-looking figure with a walrus moustache standing outside the depot where talks took place.

It was a Bydgoszcz worker named Stanislaw Walesa, look-alike elder brother of Solidarity chairman Lech Walesa, waiting for news of the talks.

Removed

Jan Rulawski, the former Solidarity chief in the region, got inside the depot during the strike but was removed and then held by police for five hours.

The Bydgoszcz strike may have indicated that Solidarity is not the overwhelming power it once was, but after years of apathy, Poland's 14-million-strong work force has begun to stir in the wake of drastic price hikes imposed by the government since February.

Opposition figures and government officials agree that national morale is low and for the first time since martial law the possibility of an outbreak of popular unrest cannot be excluded from political calculations.

"The spontaneity of the Bydgoszcz strike implies that society is close to going beyond control," the source close to the Communist Party said, apparently confirming Walesa's prognosis of increasing instability.

The fact that the workers had the courage to organise themselves and strike is obviously a new element in the situation, said veteran dissident Jacek Kuron who played a major role in setting up Solidarity in 1980.

Food for thought, but little extra food

By Helen Womack

MOSCOW (Reuters): Pensioner Vera Mikhailovna lives in a picturesque wooden house in a small town outside Moscow but she has no running water and, at 65, is growing impatient with years of waiting for a transfer to a state flat.

When she went into her local cottage hospital recently, she was housed with 10 other women in a ward built for three, frightened at night when there were no medical staff on duty.

"I support Mikhail Gorbachev but so far 'perestroika' has made little difference to my life," she said when asked how she had gained from reforms launched by the Kremlin leader three years ago this month.

Another Soviet citizen, Oleg, loves books. He has few material possessions but his one-room Moscow flat is stuffed from floor to ceiling and wall to wall with books and magazines.

"I subscribe to as many journals as I can but still I have to get up early and queue at the kiosk for the most popular ones. The Soviet press has become such a good read," he said.

Revolution

The experiences of Vera Mikhailovna and Oleg are typical of many ordinary Russians, who say that Gorbachev's policy of "glasnost" (openness) has produced an intellectual and psychological revolution.

But, because economic reform is a slower process, they say "perestroika" (restructuring) has hardly touched their struggle for material existence on an average salary of 200 roubles (\$310) a month.

To a foreign observer, Soviets seem less cowed and frightened than they were three years ago and more inclined to stand up for their rights and express their feelings.

Russia's legendary glowering state shop assistants, who treated a polite request for service as an affront, seem more willing to help customers, perhaps because they know Soviet shoppers now have the choice, albeit limited and relatively expensive, of turning to cooperative ventures.

The change in psychology seems to be the result of Gorbachev's message that the good things in life are open to all who work for them and not, as under his predecessor Leonid Brezhnev, the preserve of the corrupt and the elite.

But attractive products are still missing from the shops and in many parts of the provinces even basics, such as meat, butter, sugar and cheese, are rationed.

"Still, I feel there is more talk about 'perestroika' than actual change," said Natasha, a Moscow University student.

She was expressing disappointment that a much-advertised rock concert, at which western stars such as David Bowie were supposed to perform in March, had been cancelled without explanation.

On a few other occasions, the Soviet press has trumpeted forthcoming attractions — and the Western press has written about them — but then they have been quietly postponed.

Moscow is still waiting for the opening of a MacDonald's hamburger restaurant, which was mooted over two years ago.

World Court toothless

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP): Although powerless to enforce its own rulings, the World Court has considerable moral clout and is considered the ultimate authority on questions of international law.

On Tuesday, the 15-judge panel, officially known as the International Court of Justice, ruled that the US-UN dispute over the American bid to shut down the Palestine Liberation Organisation office in New York must be submitted to arbitration.

In its 43-year existence, the court has dealt with numerous disputes involving states and agencies of the United Nations, of which the court is the judicial branch.

Nominated by the UN secretary-general, the court's judges are elected in separate votes by the UN Security Council and the General Assembly.

Judges must be recognised experts on international law to qualify for the bench, and are elected for nine-year terms, with no limit on the number of terms they can hold.

The court's president and vice-president are chosen by the 15 judges themselves for three-year terms. In February, India judge Nagendra Singh was succeeded as president by Jose-Maria Ruda of Argentina.

Opinions

Under the court statutes, only sovereign states may bring cases before it, while UN bodies are only entitled to seek advisory opinions. Since it was established by the then fledgling United Nations in 1945, the court has heard 55 cases and delivered 18 advisory opinions.

Opinions

Most cases spring from complaints by one nation against another, such as Nicaragua's 1984 claim that the United States was trying to overthrow its government.

But two or more states may also decide to submit disputes to the court, as has been the case in boundary disputes and continental shelf controversies.

Proceedings at the court often take years. But in crises such as the Mali-Burkina Faso border dispute, known as the "Christmas War" of 1986, the bench is entitled to issue so-called "interim" or emergency measures when it deems that the rights of one of the parties to the dispute are in jeopardy.

Illegal

The court's most celebrated cases included the US-Nicaragua case and the US complaint against Iran over the 1979-1981 US embassy affair. In that case the court ruled that the detention of 54 American diplomats in Tehran embassy compound by Iranian militants was illegal.

Another case with major international ramifications was the court's 1966 ruling that South Africa's continuing occupation of Namibia is illegal.

In none of these cases were the court's rulings complied with, demonstrating the court's inability to enforce its judgments.

The American hostages were released by Iran only after lengthy negotiations with Algeria as a go-between. US President Ronald Reagan continued to support the Contras even after the court declared such support illegal, and South Africa still occupies Namibia, also known as South-West Africa.

However, all those rulings were seen as moral victories for the plaintiff nations, and many court rulings on border issues break new ground in the expanding field of international law.



Bodyguards recruited from Pakistan's mountain tribes flank political agent Abdel Karim Qasuria, a senior law enforcement officer, at his office in volatile North-West Frontier Province. (Reuters wirephoto)

Trigger-happy ways persist in Pakistan's north-west province

By William MacLean

PARACHINAR, Pakistan (Reuters): The turbulent Pushtun tribal chief draws an imaginary knife across his throat.

"This is what happens to people who interfere with us," he says, the ghost of a smile flitting across this craggy face.

Here in the shadow of the soaring snow-capped mountains of Afghanistan, the Pushtun tribes of Pakistan's North-West Frontier Province continue to resist what they see as attempts at subjugation by outside powers.

Cradling an AK-47 assault rifle, Malik (chieftain) Nizamuddin Masood, 65, explains: "We accept some authority over us, but only on our terms."

To emphasise his point, he delves into his baggy knee-length shirt and produces a Russian pistol holstered in a bandolier strung with bullets. His smile reappears.

The tribes, whose aggression and pride made them the most romanticised of all the peoples of British India, secured formal recognition of their autonomy in treaties signed with the British in the late 19th century. They won regular cash payments for "good behaviour."

Pakistan inherited this system at independence in 1947 and allowed them to keep their jirgas (assemblies) as the highest legal institution in the tribal belt, which covers 10,000 square miles (27,000 sq km) along 225 miles (360 km) of the frontier.

"We had an agreement with the British," says Masood. "They respected our customs and left us to the details."

He said "details" included the right to execute criminals and give daughters in marriage as payment for an offence.

Law enforcement still operates through the British colonial system of government political agents empowered to dispense rough justice.

Here, chasing an opium smuggler can mean confronting his family's private army. If diplomacy fails in such a case, the political agents are at liberty to take drastic steps.

Agents have sometimes drawn up artillery to blast away at offenders holed up in craggy windswept mountains. Under the British system of "tribal and territorial responsibility," they may also practise a kind of licensed abduction.

"Let's say 'A' plants a bomb, and we cannot catch him," said an official at Alizay in the province's Kurram district. "We will arrest and jail his relatives B, C and D to get his surrender. This is our way."

All residents of an area where a crime occurred are liable to be jailed. Pakistan's penal code does not apply here.

"We blockade villages and seize vehicles if we have to," said Kurram's tough political agent Abdel Karim Qasuria.

Major law enforcement problems include tribal vendettas that may flare up into pitched battles, kidnapping and smuggling of Afghan opium, described by one tribal leader as the province's major "natural resource."

In recent years the Afghan war has put the system under considerable strain. Rocket-launchers and anti-aircraft guns siphoned off from Afghan guerrilla supplies have found their way into the hands of tribesmen raised on bolt-action rifles.

Pakistani officials say cross-border subversion has risen. They say bombings that killed dozens of people in the province in recent years were sabotage by tribesmen whose loyalty had been bought by the Soviet-backed Kabul government.

The province provides a haven for most of the three million Afghan refugees in Pakistan as well as the thousands of Afghan guerrillas.

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1517 — "Evil May Day" riots in London as apprentices attack foreign residents. 60 rioters later are hanged.
- 1522 — England declares war on France and Scotland.
- 1648 — Scots begin second civil war.
- 1700 — Saxon troops invade Livonia, marking start of great northern war.
- 1703 — Chushingura incident occurs in Japan when Kiva Yoshinaka is slain by supporters of late Lord of Ako.
- 1707 — Union between England and Scotland is formed under name Great Britain.
- 1819 — Freedom of the press is introduced in France.
- 1896 — Nasir-ud-Din, Shah of Persia, is murdered.
- 1925 — Cyprus is declared a British crown colony.
- 1937 — US President Franklin D. Roosevelt signs US Neutrality Act.
- 1942 — Japanese forces take Mandalay, Burma, in World War II while British retreat along Chindwin valley to India.
- 1963 — Netherlands New Guinea, former Dutch territory, is transferred from United Nations custody and is named West Irian.
- 1974 — UN General Assembly rejects \$4 billion aid programme proposed by United States, and approves instead Third World programme that would establish special fund to aid poor countries.
- 1977 — May Day rally in Istanbul turns into gun battle between leftists and Turkish police.
- 1986 — Millions of blacks stay away from jobs and schools in what is described as largest anti-apartheid protest in South Africa's history.
- 1987 — Pope John Paul II beatifies Jewish-born nun killed at Auschwitz Nazi death camp.

Audrey Hepburn is Unicef's special ambassador

My fair lady helps the needy

By Judy Byrne

THE face is hauntingly familiar. Deep-etched lines have failed to erase her unforgettable beauty.

More than a quarter of a century after she turned her back on the big screen for the sake of her children, Audrey Hepburn is in the limelight again to help the neediest youngsters in the world.

At 58, with age spots on her hands and wrinkles on her neck, she has become the champion of the world's starving children.

And just weeks into her new job as special ambassador for the United Nations children's charity Unicef, it is really getting to her. Already she says she cannot close her eyes now without images of starving children crowding into her head.

Since she accepted the job of special ambassador vacated by the death of Danny Kaye, though, she has dined with senators in Washington—and got an immediate increase in the American aid budget. And that, she says, is just the start.

Audrey, who now lives in Switzerland, has begun a programme of fund-raising, flying to Britain, California, Finland and Turkey. She has also been to Africa to see for herself what Unicef is doing at the front line of the war on children's suffering.

But not all her memories of Ethiopia are unhappy ones. There was the spontaneous applause of 500 orphans enjoying a meagre extra meal she had brought them.

There was the small girl who saw her sitting in the sand and stepped out of line, threw herself into the star's arms and hugged her.

Audrey says: "It was such a marvelous thing to happen. I had waited there out of a longing to hug them. I had a need for that and the child knew."

Besides orphans, Audrey Hepburn also visited food centres and dam construction sites that looked like something out of an old Hollywood Biblical epic.

For years actress Audrey Hepburn gave up her career to bring up her own children. Now she has just become special ambassador for the children's charity Unicef... determined to help thousands of starving youngsters in Ethiopia.



Audrey Hepburn gives a polio vaccine to a child in Ankara, Turkey.

She says: "There were 1500 men, women and children digging with their own hands. Children were carrying rocks on their backs."

There was danger, too, with rebels blocking roads to the north of the country. But Miss Hepburn never flinched. She simply called for a "corridor of peace" through which essentials like food and medicine could pass safely to victims cut off by the civil war.

Unicef is particularly concerned to fight the Ethiopian drought with better irrigation and water storage. It has

already raised half the \$22,000,000 estimated cost. Audrey Hepburn is the organisation's secret weapon for raising the rest.

She adds: "Though the children broke my heart, they were also so wonderfully giving and smiling and sweet. I just want to rush back there."

Images
"Those images of Ethiopia will never fade. It is a different world, like walking on the moon. It is dry, barren—much worse than in 1985 because even less rain is falling. You feel the heartbreak. There are five-

year-olds who look one.

"But the people—I can't tell you how beautiful they are. The way they hold their heads, their eyes. Not just one or two but all of them."

"With extra aid they could dig to ensure their own future instead of digging their own graves."

Yet it was only last year that the star of mega-hit movies like *Breakfast at Tiffany's* and *My Fair Lady* started to revive her own suspended career on television.

When her sons, Sean, now 27, and Luca, who is 18, were younger, she wanted to be free of movie-making commitments to look after them. "I didn't want to go around the world and have my children grow up away from me," she says.

Then, no sooner had she resumed her postponed career than Unicef made her an offer she felt she couldn't refuse. She explains: "I am doing the work because I want to and the time is right."

And it means that not having travelled for the sake of her own children she is now going to be doing an awful lot of it for others. She adds: "I've loved children for years. This now is all part of it."

But Audrey Hepburn, born Edda Hepburn van Heemstra in Belgium of a Dutch baroness mother and an English father of Irish extraction, had an extra reason not to say "no" to Unicef. She has known real hunger herself.

She had been in England as a child when war broke out. Her divorced mother immediately took her home to Holland "thinking it would be neutral", she says. Instead, the family was reduced to living on the brink of starvation under German occupation.

"We had to scratch for food. We ate turnips, tulip bulbs. A potato was a luxury. It was the food and medicine and clothing brought in by Unicef and the Red Cross at the end of the war that saved us."

Even as a child, she had guts, concern—and the ability to turn strong men's knees to jelly.



Hepburn pictured with a young girl in Ethiopia, and as Eliza Doolittle in the hit musical *My Fair Lady*.

Young Edda had had a sheltered childhood with servants, nannies and private tutors. Despite a tendency to be sickly, she desperately wanted to dance when she grew up. But the Nazi invasion soon shattered her tranquil life.

She was enrolled by the Resistance as a message carrier and more than once used her mixture of vulnerability and charm to talk her way out of a tight corner.

Gesture
Once, when she was caught out during curfew, she used her schoolbag, sign language and her few words of broken German to persuade a soldier she was just a bewildered child caught on her way home from lessons. He never knew she was carrying Resistance communications in that bag.

Another day, trying to make contact with a paratrooper cut off behind enemy lines she suddenly found herself face-to-face with a German soldier. With amazing presence of mind—and more than a hint of her latent acting talent—she simply handed him a bunch of wild flowers.

The gesture of such apparent innocence disarmed him completely.

Eventually, she was caught in a round-up of women, but they were poorly guarded. Audrey managed to slip into a cellar where she hid for weeks, eating just bread and apples.

The effect on her body was traumatic. Since then she has never been able to put on weight, however much she eats. The Vogue model greyhound figure other women so envy has remained sleek without resort to diets or health farms ever since.

After the war, Edda volunteered as a nurse caring for Dutch soldiers in a rest home. But she always kept up her dancing lessons and when currency restrictions were lifted in 1948, she came to London to take up a scholarship with the Rambert School of Ballet.

She was a variety dancer for five years and was on Broadway in *Gigi* when director William Wyler began a massive



Women working on a weaving and blanket-making project welcome Hepburn in Ethiopia, and below a young Ethiopian child shares a joke with the actress turned ambassador.



search for a new star for Roman Holiday. He was totally enchanted when he saw her screen test.

She says: "There must have been a lucky star up there then. I had no acting experience really. And next minute they were handling me an Oscar."

The amazing thing about Audrey Hepburn's career is that she was big in only a handful of movies like *Breakfast at Tiffany's*, *Roman Holiday*, *Sabrina*, *War and Peace*, *Funny Face* and *My Fair Lady*. Then she threw herself into the fulltime role of mother.

Yet she could emerge from her self-imposed seclusion at any time and it would seem she had never been off the front covers of magazines or out of the gossip columns.

In fact, even in her Hollywood days, she always did her best to keep her private life private. It is one reason why she likes living in Europe. "It's easier to keep your privacy there," she says.

The star who was once the highest paid actress in America

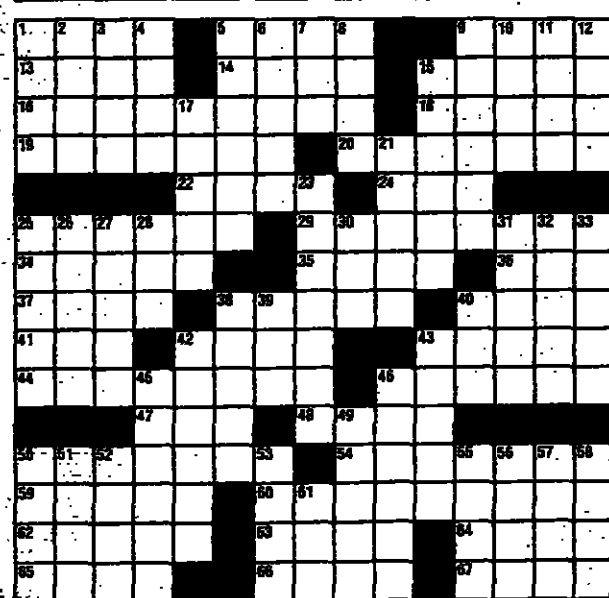
after Elizabeth Taylor first married actor Mel Ferrer. Their son, Sean, born after a series of miscarriages, is now a film director himself. They divorced in 1968 and the following year Audrey married Italian psychiatrist Dr Andrea Dotti, father of her second son, Luca, who wants to go to an art college. They parted in 1980.

Audrey now lives in Switzerland with Dutch film-maker and actor Robert Wolders. And despite the elegance that won her the French fashion industry's accolade of Most Elegant Woman of the Year three years ago, she lives, she says, a simple life.

She has a house full of dogs and a garden full of roses. "I hope," she says, "that I will still have time to walk my dogs and tend my roses."

But Unicef, she knows, is going to make demands on her. After all, who could forget a place where a small child standing alone was asked what she wanted to be when she grew up and replied "alive".

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- 1988 name in the news
 - Radar image
 - 1988 name in the news
 - Favorite
 - At — (relaxed)
 - Truman's birthplace
 - 1988 name in the news
 - Perfume
 - ingredient
 - Recluse
 - 20 1988 name in the news
 - Part of speech
 - Master, in law
 - Proverbs
 - Kind of bug or fly
 - 34 1988 name in the news
 - Cote d'Ivoire
 - Chemical suffix
 - 1988 name in the news
 - Saunter
 - Dornini
 - 41 Type measures
 - One opposed
 - 43 1988 name in the news
 - Tenant
 - Healers
 - 47 Darling of baseball
 - Graceful aquatic bird
 - Encircling
 - 54 1988 name in the news
 - Came up
 - 60 — road
 - 62 Begot
 - 63 Religious denomination
 - 64 — Camera
 - 65 Understands
 - 66 Cereal grass
 - 67 Way. Abbr.
- DOWN**
- Desperate
 - Repute
 - Ear part
 - Certain school, for short
 - Davis and Midler
 - Type of beam
 - Equal: Comb. form
 - Remain undecided
 - Torment
 - 10 In a frenzy
 - Hindu princess
 - Very, in
 - Versailles
 - 15 — not (probably)
 - Split apart
 - 21 — Majoris (The Great Bear)
 - 23 1988 name in the news
 - Tribe
 - 26 Actress Keaton
 - 27 Out of order
 - 28 — and Magog
 - 30 Gal of song
 - 31 Famous jockey
 - 32 Word with circle or sanctum
 - 33 Commercial signs
 - 38 Put — (to stop)
 - 39 Atlas abbr.
 - 40 Tune
 - 42 Venerated
 - 43 Swindle
 - 45 Rainbows
 - 46 Arts: partner
 - 49 Drive out
 - 50 Deep tone
 - 51 Part of HOMES
 - 52 1988 name in the news
 - 53 Moderately well
 - 55 Singer Kristofferson
 - 56 Remain
 - 57 Electrical units
 - 58 Well-groomed
 - 61 Teachers' gp.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

LAMA OMAR MASS
ABAS VALIO ERIE
BUSHMASTER RETE
ESTER TENACIOUS
LEE ESE BON
RIDER HONORED
SEWS IMPEND TO
ENOLA ISA GRNIS
TOR MONADS OGEE
ANKWARD MINEM
AAIL ADD ASH
HALFNOTES VESTA
OLAF PASTMASTER
SAIL SITES TIEE
ETIRE LARS ERIAS

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠Q943 ♥7 ♦AQ65 ♣KJ52
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
3 ♥ Dbl Pass ?
What do you bid now?

Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠Q982 ♥85 ♦K107 ♣Q876
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
3 ♥ Dbl Pass ?
What do you bid now?

Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:
♠AQ10952 ♥8 ♦KJ6 ♣K95
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
3 ♥ Dbl Pass ?
What do you bid now?

Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you

hold:
♠Q9852 ♥KJ9 ♦Q103 ♣J5
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
3 ♥ Dbl Pass ?
What do you bid now?

Q.5—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AKJ10 ♥95 ♦K107 ♣AK97
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♥ Pass ?
What do you bid now?

Q.6—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AJ54 ♥83 ♦K72 ♣KQ63
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♥ Pass ?
What do you bid now?



"You didn't fill it up, did you?"



"No Mr. Benson, we're not home early - we haven't been out yet!"



"Never mind the ladder, get yourself in here."

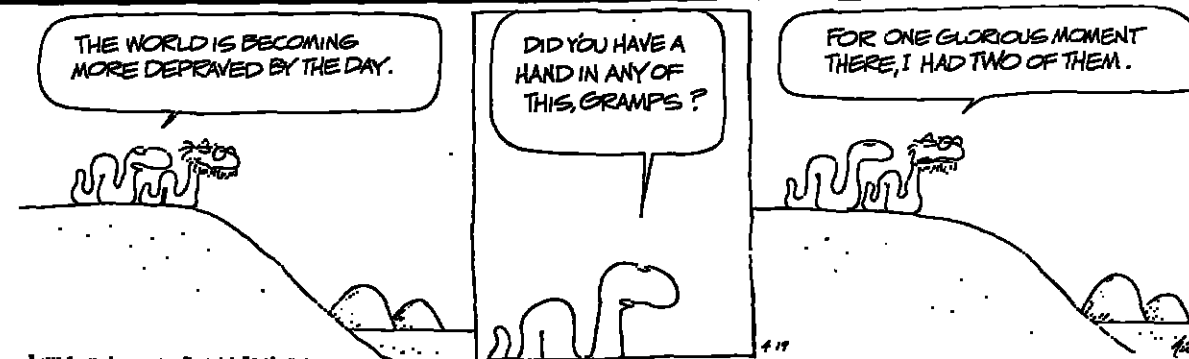
THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You will be able to do something that you enjoy doing. You will meet someone unusual. Do not miss a good opportunity. Be a little less impatient.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

You will not be in the best of moods and should try not to upset others. Do not place too much reliance on guesswork. This is not the right time to take any undue risks. Be a little less complacent.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

The situation is complicated and you should do all you can to simplify it. You will be able to do something much to your liking. You will find it very hard not to succumb to temptation.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

You will have something you can be pleased about. That does not however mean that you can just sit back and do nothing. An offer or proposal should be considered carefully. Be more tactful.



Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)

You should not allow yourself to be invaded by negative thoughts. Venus's more favourable influence will help you to deal with a personal problem. Try not to do anything outrageous. Be prompt.



Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

You will be able to keep good company. An old friend of yours will come back into your life. You should make sure that you return a favour with another. Be sincere.



Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

The better influence of Mars and of Venus will help you to make the most of your leisure time. You should do all you can to avoid upsetting your partner. Put your family first and avoid being selfish.



Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

The moon's less favourable influence will tend to make you more sensitive to criticism. You should not get a small problem out of proportion. Concentrate on doing what has to be done. Be constructive.



Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

You will be better able to utilise the time at your disposal. You should make sure you do not drive too far without a break. Avoid doing anything too strenuous today. Be frugal.



Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

You will be able to get your way in most but not in all things. Your personal affairs could well take a turn for the better. You should not ask for more than you are willing to give in return. Be more considerate.



Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

You are subject to mixed influences and should try to take it easy just now. Make sure you do not do anything that is almost bound to give offence. Let your actions be governed by reason. Be selective.



Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)

You will be able to overcome some early doubts. You should have more faith in yourself and confidence in others. Do not toy with anything electrical. Be fair-minded.

SNIPPETS

US servicemen exempt from AIDS' clearance

AMERICAN servicemen assigned at the two US bases here and members of a foreign diplomatic corps in the country are exempted from the immigration commission's Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS) virus clearance requirement.

The immigration's guidelines, issued yesterday, also excludes officials of the United Nations and non-government officials who are personnel and participants of foreign programmes here which have approval of the Philippine government.

Immigration chief Miriam Defensor Santiago said the exemption on American servicemen at Clark Air Base and Subic Naval Base in Angeles and Olongapo cities was made after the US consulate gave its assurance that military personnel on overseas assignments have been tested prior to their deployment.

But health officials have allegedly monitored 47 cases of AIDS, mostly prostitutes working in nightspots in Clark and Subic bases.

Aliens can stay ... for P51,000

IMMIGRATION Commissioner Miriam Defensor Santiago said President Aquino has approved a legislation plan for some 500,000 overstaying foreigners in the country which is expected to raise an estimated P15 billion.

The programme, which involves fining the overstaying aliens P51,000 each, "solves the age-old problem of illegal aliens before it becomes unmanageable," Santiago said.

She said she expects some 300,000 of these illegal aliens to take advantage of the amnesty scheme.

The CID chief said the programme was contained in Executive Order 324, signed by the President last April 13. The order authorises Santiago to issue the rules of the programme.

Seized bags yield P1m wristwatches

FOUR of six pieces of baggage recently seized by customs authorities at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport were found to contain assorted men's and ladies' watches when they were inventoried.

The watches in the four pieces of baggage were worth P1 million, according to officers who did the inventory, led by customs Collector Elizabeth Guerrero and Commissioner Salvador Mison's special assistant Gerry Esquerre.

Deadly pesticides still peddled in Philippines

TEN out of the world's 12 most hazardous pesticides are still peddled in the Philippines, according to the Senate committee on agriculture and food.

The committee named the hazardous pesticides in the country as Aldrin, Chlordane, Chlordimorph, DDT, Dieldrin, Ethylene dibromide, Heptachlor, Lindane, Parathion and 2,4,5-T.

Nicanor Deen, chief of Fertilizer and Pesticides Authority, admitted before the senate committee on agriculture and food that these unsafe pesticides are still being used in the country.

Bomb lands on Aquino hacienda by mistake

THE Philippine Air Force says one of its F-5 jet planes accidentally dropped a practice bomb on the Hacienda Luisita which is owned by President Aquino's family.

Initial reports had blamed the US Air Force for the incident, in which there were no casualties nor damage. But a Philippine Air Force statement issued said a Filipino plane was responsible.

It said the bomb fell from one of three planes which flew low over Hacienda Luisita during a training exercise.

The plantation is located near Clark Air Base. But US Air Force spokesman Maj. Thomas Boyd said all American jetfighters had been moved temporarily out of the country because of runway maintenance at Clark.

Constitutional officials quoted residents as saying the device made a loud noise and spewed out white smoke when it landed in a field on the plantation.

Senate demands indictment of Navy top brass

Heads will roll over Gringo caper

By Marlen Ronquillo

A SENATE committee recommended the immediate prosecution of the new Navy chief, his immediate predecessor and all other officers whose "laxity" led to the escape of coup leader Gregorio Honasan from his prison ship last April 2.

Among those recommended for indictment were Commodore Carlito Cunanan, who assumed his post as acting Navy flag-officer-in-command barely 48 hours before Honasan's Black Saturday escape from his BRP Andres Bonifacio prison ship, and retired Rear Admiral Tagumpay Jardiniño, whom Cunanan succeeded.

The recommendation of Sen. Ernesto Maceda's committee on national defence and security contained in its 33-page report on the results of its investigation of Honasan's escape as well as that of his PMA Class '71 classmate Lt. Col. Eduardo Matillano, and their Aug 28 failed putsch.

Among the other recommendations of the committee:

- Adoption of "drastic"

reforms in the Armed Forces.

- Reorientation of soldiers.
- The immediate retirement of all overlying generals.

The report pictured a military wracked by factionalism and lack of morale and discipline. Maceda released it minutes after delivering a privilege speech in which he raised doubts on the claims of the Aquino Administration that it is winning the 19-year-old war against the communist insurgency.

The recommendation to prosecute was based on findings that there was a total breakdown in the security for Honasan and Matillano.

Referring to Honasan's escape, the report said: "The security measures undertaken were lax and utterly inadequate."

Although the report did not name the officers the committee wants immediately prosecuted, Cunanan and Jardiniño, by implication, were covered.

A portion of the report said Cunanan "failed to take the initiative in getting to know all the security arrangements aboard the (prison) ship."

It added: "He (Cunanan),

therefore, failed to issue specific instructions relevant to the custody and security of Honasan and other detainees. The failure of the FOIC (flag-officer-in-command) and the staff in giving emphasis to Honasan's detention only reflects the lack of attention and concern the Navy gave to the detainees, Honasan included."

Jardiniño was faulted for failing to give Cunanan a full briefing on the security for Honasan.

According to the report, the security was so lax that probationary Ensign Gerardo Mojica, the head of Honasan's guards who joined the escape, was not even required to make periodic reports to Commander Fred Tuvilla, the captain of the Andres Bonifacio.

"The concentration was external security and they (Navy officers) failed to look into the internal aspects of security," the report said.

The report confirmed a newspaper story that accomplices of Honasan smuggled aboard UZI machine pistols, divers' suits and other paraphernalia which Honasan distributed personally to his 14 guards before the escape. The report said even non-

family members were allowed to visit Honasan who was also given "free movement to interact with his guards."

The report said Mojica had an axe to grind on his Navy superiors because they failed to endorse him for regular status despite his good record.

It said the security was so lax that as early as February, Honasan and Mojica were already plotting the escape.

The report said that on the day of Honasan's escape, radio communications between the ship and the Navy headquarters along Roxas boulevard which was barely 500 metres away broke down.

The report also cited the same breakdown in security on Matillano, a classmate of Honasan in PMA's Class 1971.

The report said the present military leadership is deeply divided and both morale and discipline are lacking.

The report also said the retirement of all overlying generals should be carried out without exemption. This was largely interpreted as an oblique dig at Gen Renato de Villa, Armed Forces chief of staff, who was supposed to retire last April 1.

Bossy Aussies like 'coy' Filipinas

AUSTRALIAN bishops have urged the Church, particularly in Cebu, to discourage mail-order marriages between Australians and Filipino women following a Queensland Church report citing severe physical and emotional abuse of such brides.

A study, entitled "The Pastoral Care of Filipinos," was done by a Catholic priest among families with at least one Filipino parent, and covered 15,000 persons.

It noted that while trouble between brides and their husbands has been highly sensationalised in the popular press, domestic violence stems mostly from the husband's alcoholism.

Social workers quoted in the study that because of the traditional sense of family loyalty of the Filipino wife, most

are hesitant to report violence until severe physical and emotional damage has been done.

The study said a disproportionately large number of Filipino women are admitted to women's shelters.

The ultimate cause lies in the image of the Filipino women as being subservient, an image that seems to attract men with authoritarian tendencies.

The study recommends that Australian men, who apply for visas for prospective Filipino brides to enter Australia, be closely screened.

A second area of concern, the study said, is the adaptation process, even in marriages that do eventually prove successful. The first few months, even

years in some cases, seem to be traumatic with Filipino women complaining of severe depression.

Separation from the family and the resultant grief and loneliness are the most obvious causes of pain, the study revealed.

Cardinal Ricardo Vidal of Cebu has ordered his priests not to officiate any marriage between Filipino women and visiting foreigners, according to Vicar General Monsignor Esteban Bingham.

He said one Cebu woman who married an Australian was reported to have been sexually abused and imprisoned by the man.

Monsignor Bingham explained that Filipino women usually consent to such marriages for economic reasons.

Overseas jobs: a must

ing programme for overseas welfare officers of the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) in Intramuros. Drilon said the government has to explore the overseas labour market to augment similar efforts at the home front.

He added, however, that due to various problems in overseas employment, ranging from cultural maladjustment to direct affronts on the Filipinos, dignity, the government has become sensitive to overseas employment issues, particularly on the welfare of workers at jobsite.

This was the reason the Aquino government banned temporarily the deployment of Filipino domestic helpers in many foreign countries, Drilon said.

To ensure the protection of

Filipino overseas workers from abuses of their employers, Drilon said the labour department, through the OWWA, has been establishing Filipino workers' social centres in many countries where there are many Filipino workers.

He said the priority areas are Jeddah, Riyadh, and Al Khobar in Saudi Arabia; Dubai and Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates; Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, Muscat in Oman, Spain, Cyprus, Italy, Singapore, Japan and Hong Kong.

Drilon said the overseas welfare officers were assigned to protect Filipino workers abroad from physical molestation, inhuman working conditions, non-payment of wages, and other sufferings of workers.

Marcos: I will be back soon Gomez: He's daydreaming

HONOLULU: Ferdinand E. Marcos said officials in the Philippine government told him he would be allowed to return to his homeland, and said he expected to be back in the Philippines within two months.

Marcos initially refused to answer questions about repeated assertions that he is negotiating with President Aquino's government.

The Philippine consul-general in Hawaii has denied talks are underway.

Marcos then said he had received messages from sources in the Philippines saying Ms. Aquino would allow him to return, but said he could not elaborate because of an agreement with unnamed parties in the Philippines.

When pressed further by reporters, Marcos said, "I (the message) came from the Aquino government."

Marcos then refused to answer repeated questions from reporters seeking more specific information. "I cannot talk about it. I have already said too much," Marcos said.

At the House of Representatives, Minority Floorleader Rodolfo Albano (KBL, Isabela) asked his colleagues to settle the issue on whether or not Marcos should be allowed to return to the Philippines.

"The national situation has vastly changed, and the period of instability of the Aquino administration has passed," Albano said, referring to the issue raised against Marcos' return.

Albano said, "We have no reason to doubt Ms. Aquino's pronouncements that the country is stable in all fronts."

"Logic and reason dictate that in the case of Marcos' return, the Aquino administration's survival is a consideration that is both moot and inconsequential,"



Tomás Gomez, the Philippine consul-general here, said Ms. Aquino had not authorised any message to Marcos.

"There has been no change in the policy articulated by the President herself," Gomez said. "The only way he can qualify this is if he names someone, and he hasn't."

Gomez added: "When you say from the Aquino government, the Aquino government has hundreds of members. My question is, is this an authorised message?"

Marcos claimed political observers in the Philippines have told him he will be allowed to return to his homeland within two months.

"I have a feeling that our people would like me to become kind of adviser," Marcos said.

When told of Marcos' claim, Gomez countered: "He's clinging to a fantasy, but to daydream is his prerogative."

Marcos said Ms. Aquino wants him to return home for humanitarian reasons, especially troublesome old war wounds that require the Philippines warmer temperatures. He also said the Aquino government would look bad if he died an exile.

"If I died here and was brought home in a coffin I would be a martyr. Would they want that?" Marcos said.

Marcos said he called the news conference at his hillside home to disprove rumours that he had died. He claimed to be in good health and exercising regularly.

Marcos said the rumours started after his aides denied interviews to newspapers in Manila.

International sex syndicate busted

literature or posters advertising child prostitutes.

The pictures were actually part of the 200 rolls of negatives confiscated by immigration agents during a raid on the house of Andrew Harvey, suspected member of the pedophile syndicate in Pagsanjan, Harve, together with John Sherman and Adriaan Van Den Elshout filed a

habeas corpus petition before the High Court seeking their immediate release.

This developed as some 50 children picketed the high court urging the immediate deportation of the three suspected pedophiles. Rogalide Liwag, chairman of the Council for the Protection of Children in Pagsanjan said the group supports the raid conducted by immigration agents in Pagsanjan.

During the hearing, lawyer Hector Siruelo, counsel for the petitioners said the arrest made was illegal because the immigration agents were not armed with warrants of arrest.

Siruelo said the articles seized during the raid which include pictures and posters were "planted" by the agents.

But De Leon denied the accusation, saying the immigration agents were armed with mission orders when they raided Harvey's residence.

The three petitioners were among the 22 suspected alien pedophiles arrested last Feb 27 by CID agents in Pagsanjan. Deportation proceedings were later on instituted on March 4 against the three on the ground that they were undesirable aliens.



Suspected foreign pedophiles try to hide their faces during a supreme court hearing.

PBA basketball

Ginebra book semifinal seat

GINEBRA San Miguel, working its fastbreaks like a well-oiled machine, thumped Shell Helix, 124-113, last night to barge into the semifinal round of the PBA Open Conference at the ULTRA.

The Ginebras, despite playing minus swingman Dondon Ampalayo and spiffy Rudy Distrito, buried 38 points from fastbreaks alone against 13 by Shell to gain a share of top spot with five wins in eight games.

The loss pushed Shell closer to elimination as it absorbed its sixth defeat in seven outings.

The Ollers were in the game in the early going, forcing the Ginebras to 14 deadlocks, the last at 36-all early in the second quarter. But Leo Isaac combined with import Jamie Waller in a 9-2 uprisings that sent the Ginebras to their first of five 14-point leads, 72-58, never to falter from thereon.

Ampalayo was sent to a hospital due to a high fever, while Distrito is still recuperating from a strained right knee sustained during Ginebra's game against Alaska last week.

In the second game, Alaska Milk mauled Great Taste, 133-119, to also enter the semifinals with a 5-3 card.

Alaska toyed with Great Taste in the final quarter of the game, leading the GT All-Filipino

second stringers by as much as 20 points in the last two minutes.

FIRST GAME

GINEBRA 124

Waller 44, Isaac 24, J. Loyzaga 12, C. Loyzaga 11, Gonzalvo 10, Ducut 9, Jaworski 8, Salazar 6, Codrera 6, Advani 6, Mamar 0, SHELL 113—Asker 32, Austria 12, Maganoc 12, Esgera 12, Cordero 12, Villapando 9, Jalmasco 7, Sanchez 7, Herrera 5, Coenco 4, Antonio 0.

Quarters: 32-30; 59-56; 88-76; 124-113.

Refs: D. Bayas, A. Bartolome, L. Salak Jr.

SECOND GAME

ALASKA 133-Kennedy 54, Pearson 30, Vilamin 13, Ravanes 9, Colosovo 7, Valenciano 6, Saldaña 6, Lazaro 4, Polistico 2, Lim 2, Relosa 0, Alolol 0.

GT 119—Fields 38, Tualdes 17, Cristobal 15, Co 14, Robles 8, Cadiz 7, Fabiosa 6, Perez 6, Cezar 4, Cabatu 4, Jarencio 0, Ramos 0, Quarters: 25-39; 54-60; 89/85; 133-119.

Refs: C. Ocampo Jr., M. Felipe, E. De Leon.

TEAM STANDINGS

W L

Ginebra 5 3

San Miguel 5 3

Purefoods 5 3

Alaska Milk 5 3

Great Taste 5 3

Shell Helix 1 7

Humorous side to Julio Iglesias

SPANISH crooner Julio Iglesias, internationally-known for his brooding and soulful renditions of ballads, revealed a humorous side during a press conference held at the Manila Hotel during his visit to the Philippines.

The first and only performer to be given the Diamond Disc Award by the Guinness Book of World Records, Iglesias said he got the award because "the Guinness owner is a friend of mine."

Asked how he feels about being kidded: "When I look in the bathroom mirror, I thank God he makes people believe anything. I'm so skinny. If I take my pants off, I won't be able to sell records anymore."

Iglesias actually received the Guinness distinction for having sold more than 150 million records in five languages worldwide. He has 233 platinum records to his name plus a staggering 784 gold records! Another platinum disc was added to the list when Octo-Artis President Orly Ilacad presented Iglesias with one "for the outstanding sales of his albums in the Philippines."

Iglesias was in town to give performances at the Araneta Coliseum and the Fiesta Pavilion of the Manila Hotel. Sources at the Coliseum said tickets were sold out ten days before showdate, making Iglesias the all-time best-selling show in the Big Dome's 27-year history. Apparently, inquiries started flooding their office a

month ago when tickets were still in the process of being printed. The shows were for the benefit of Alaya Kawal Foundation and Batayog ng mga Bayani.

The balladeer confessed that the Philippines is a country he is emotionally involved in.

As everyone probably knows Iglesias was formerly married to a Filipina, Isabel Preysler, with whom he has three children.

"Coming here is a joy," he said. "But I don't have to come to the Philippines often to remember you because I see Filipinos in my children, particularly my son, Julio."

Asked if he would get married again, Iglesias swiftly replied: "No thank you." After a brief pause, he added laughingly: "Before I came here, I had a vaccine. I am now immune to love." He declared that he is a "professional singer and an amateur lover."

Iglesias, sporting a tan and a new hairdo (slick back a la Michael Douglas), also said he loves every type of music, from rock and roll to classics.

He cited Nat King Cole, the Beatles and his father as his favorites. He remarked that for him, singing is emotions and not techniques. "When I sing, I put brains and emotions together. I match the words with my eyes and even though people may be far away from me, I am very close to them. The emotion is deep."

Iglesias, who admittedly knows how to cook lumpia and



Julio Iglesias receives his ninth platinum record.

adobo, performed his like To All The Girls I've Loved Before. Hey, All Of You, and Moonlight Lady. To delight the Filipino audience, he also did a Tagalog song, Dahil sa Iyo which he used to sing with his former in-laws.

To know more about this international artist, here are some interesting quotes:

On being a sex symbol. "People imagine and fantasise—the truth is I'm just normal. I have not had as many relationships in my life as people think."

On being single. "I'm not lonely. Do I look lonely? Actually, I choose my loneliness. It's my privilege. My life, I'm unhappy in my private life but I know in the beginning that it would be the price. I'm an artist forever."

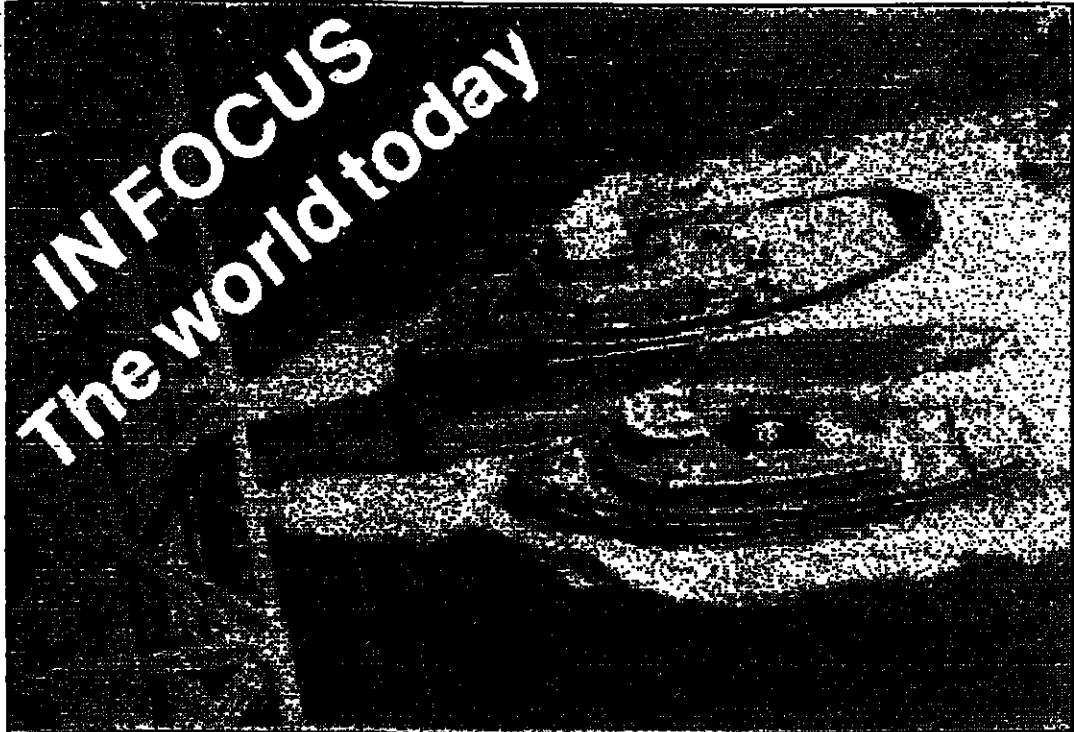
I'm more concerned with making it in my career than with anything else."

On his children: "My children are little teenagers. They wait for the future and don't look to the past. They have been so many times with me on tour. They go to sleep with the music I sing. I am very close to my family."

On emerging as an artist. "Now I'm developing a different kind of music which will appeal to everyone without losing any of my Mediterranean feeling and emotions. I'm not able to reach people using rock 'n' roll, but I'm able to reach people with ballads. The most important thing is to be good in your profession and I think I'm very good."

IN FOCUS

The world today



THE crippled submarine USS Bonefish passes under the Cooper River Bridge flanked by tugboats on Friday on their way to port in Charleston, South Carolina. The sub suffered an explosion on April 24 which killed three crewmen. (Reuter wirephoto)



QUEEN ELIZABETH (right) walks past the Australian pavilion accompanied by Lady Dot Williams after opening the World Expo '88 in Brisbane, Australia yesterday as she and her husband, the Duke of Edinburgh continue their three-week tour. (Reuter wirephoto)



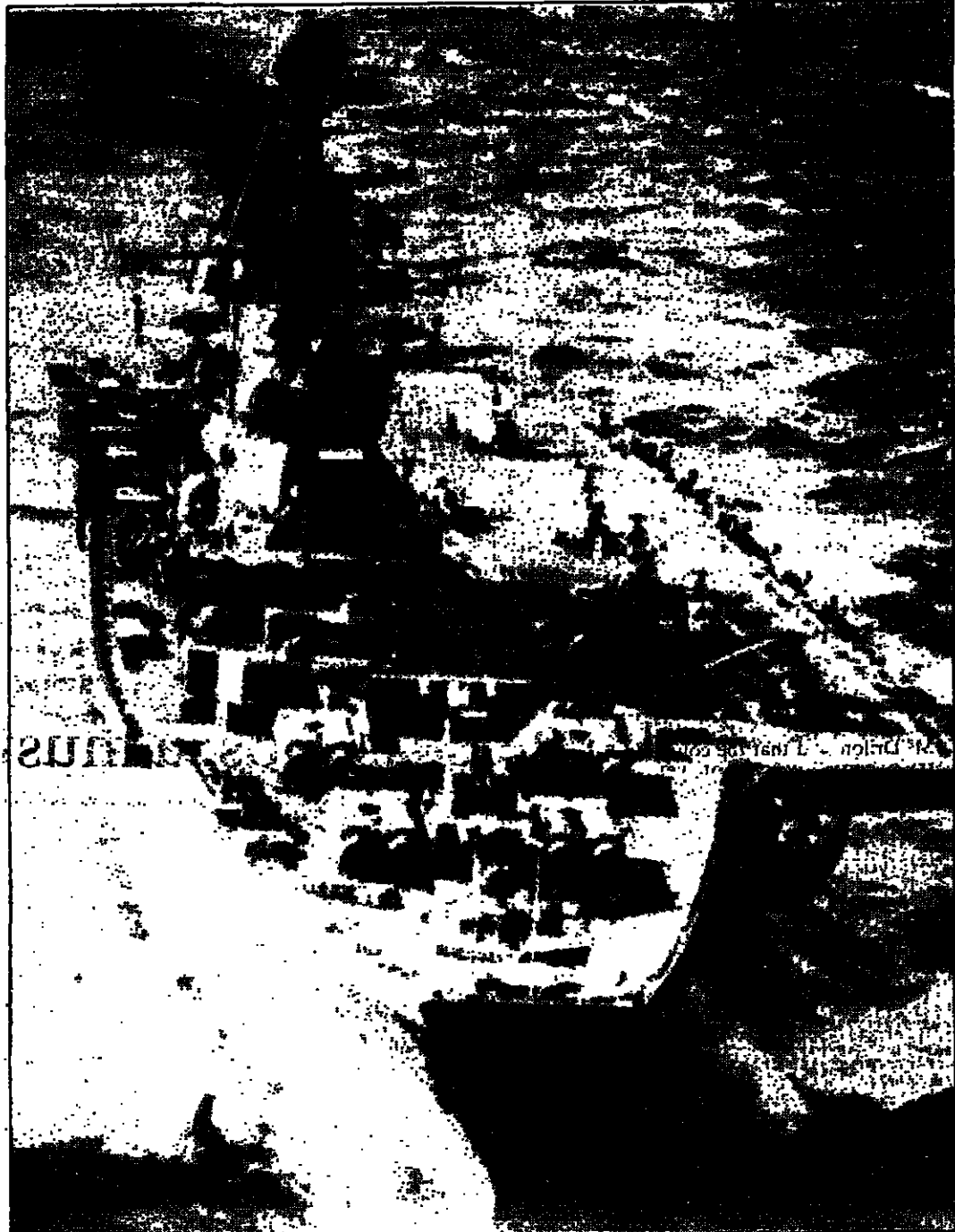
OUTGOING French President Francois Mitterrand and Socialist Party presidential candidate arrives for his first political rally as second round campaigning officially starts. Mitterrand faces Jacques Chirac when France goes to the polls on Sunday May 8. (Reuter wirephoto)



SOVIET leader Mikhail Gorbachev meets with Patriarch Pimen (far right) and members of the Holy Synod from the Russian Orthodox Church in Moscow on Friday. Gorbachev and the Synod met in connection with the 1,000th anniversary of Christianity in Russia. (Reuter wirephoto)



STEELWORKERS from the Huta Lenina factory catch up on their reading and rest in Krakow on Friday. The strike is in its fourth day. (Reuter wirephoto)



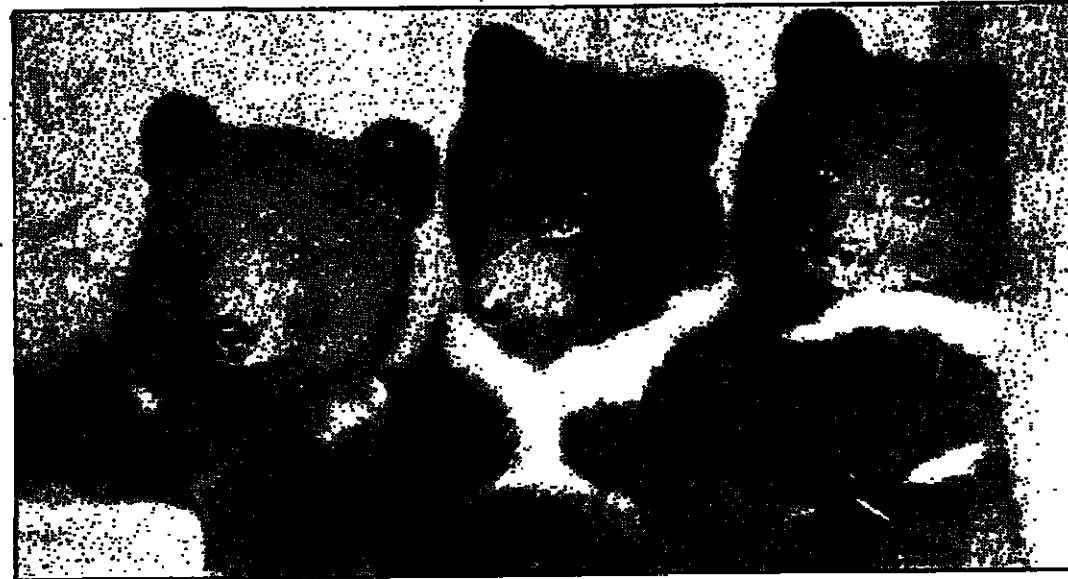
THE Soviet Union added its fourth Kielev-class carrier to the Soviet fleet in 1987 according to a list of Soviet military developments during the past year that was presented recently. (Reuter wirephoto)



COMPOSER Sir Michael Tippett with Sian Edwards, the first woman ever to conduct the Royal Opera in London's Covent Garden, after her first performance there on Friday. She performed Tippett's 'The Knot Garden' in a new production. Sian Edwards has signed a three year contract with the opera house. (Reuter wirephoto)



NINE people were rescued yesterday as this bus was caught by floodwaters in Marramatta near Sydney. Two people have died as torrential rain deluged the Sydney region for the third successive day. (Reuter wirephoto)



THREE bears huddle together in their cage in Berne, Switzerland. The bears were born in January and will be presented to the public today. (Reuter wirephoto)



MOLLOKO, the first California condor conceived and hatched in captivity is helped out of its eggshell early Friday evening by handlers at the San Diego Wild Animal Park. This condor will bring the endangered species to 28 birds. (Reuter wirephoto)



A CHINESE guard stands in front of flags representing nations that are participating in China's first professional men's golf tournament yesterday. The final round will take place today. (Reuter wirephoto)



THE Boston Herald, quoting an unnamed friend of Burt Reynolds, says that Reynolds and actress Loni Anderson (shown together in this 1988 file photo) were planning to marry on Burt's farm in Jupiter, Florida on Friday. But a Reynolds spokesman in Los Angeles would not confirm the report, saying only that when and if Burt and Loni do marry, it will be announced after the fact. (Reuter wirephoto)



THE Soviet Union will soon deploy its Blackjack Intercontinental bomber, shown in an artist's rendition, as part of its military advances, according to an announcement on Friday by Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci. Carlucci appeared at a conference held at the Pentagon to release the Pentagon's 1988 edition of 'Soviet Military Power.' (Reuter wirephoto)

BUSINESS & FINANCE

ICO admit need for tougher stance on dual market

LONDON, April 30. (Reuters): Delegates at talks of the International Coffee Organisation (ICO) agreed yesterday to make new efforts to tackle the vexed issue of some members' alleged cut-price sales to countries that do not belong to the group.

Such sales complicate efforts by the producers-consumer organisation to stabilise world prices.

Delegates said an ICO meeting decided that its executive board should investigate whether an existing resolution on the subject was having the desired effect.

ICO resolution 336 says prices for non-member importers should not be lower than those charged members. It provides for penalties ranging from a reduced export quota to expulsion from the ICO.

Courage

But US delegate Jon Rosenbaum said: The political will and courage to deal with the problem is lacking at present. Members do not have the guts to make allegations nor apply penalties. There should be automatic methods to deal with violation of these rules.

A recent ICO inquiry into rumours of cut-price sales found no culprits, but was greeted sceptically by the US and European coffee trade, several delegates said.

The board may revise resolution 336, presenting any recommendations to an ICO council in September.

Non-member importers are mostly in Eastern Europe, the Middle East and Asia.

Co exports to non-members reached four million 60-kg (130) bags in the first six months of the current 1987-88 season compared with 23.6 million shipped to members, according to ICO preliminary statistics released earlier this week. The figures compare with 2.8 million and 26.5 million bags respectively in the same 1986-87 period.

Donors pledged \$2.5b, says Pakistan

ISLAMABAD, April 30. (Reuters): Pakistan said yesterday foreign aid donors had pledged it more than \$2.5 billion for the next financial year beginning on July 1.

The pledge of \$2.547 billion at a meeting of a World Bank-sponsored consortium last week in Paris has "marginally" exceeded Pakistan's request for aid, a government statement said.

Government officials said Islamabad had requested \$2.525 billion compared to the \$2.4 billion pledged for the fiscal 1987-88 ending on June 30.

Satisfaction

"The consortium member countries expressed satisfaction over the fact that Pakistan's economic growth has been sustained with adequate measures to boost the economy," it said.

The nations represented at the Paris meeting on April 21-22 were Belgium, Britain, Canada, France, West Germany, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Norway and the United States.

Castles in Spain

A happier place to buy

By Midas

FOR many expatriates here, Europeans, Arabs and those from the subcontinent, the idea of a holiday villa or apartment in Spain is a very desirable one. Over the past decade or so there has been a tremendous building boom in Spain and new developments and even entire villages have sprung up everywhere along the coast. The offshore island, like the Balearics; Majorca, Minorca and Ibiza, as well as the Canary Islands have all undergone a major transformation.

In the same time, property prices have skyrocketed. A two bedroom villa near the beach in Lanzarote, the most fashionable of the Canary Islands, cost less than £7,000 when it was built in 1976, now it costs well over £35,000.

Property

However, the price explosion has probably run its course, and anyone who is thinking of building now should think about their property for its intrinsic value, rather than as an investment.

The reason is that the supply of holiday property is beginning to outstrip the demand, and resales are sometimes difficult to organise.

In certain areas too, it has become quite difficult to rent

Manufacturing employment plummets

Job data next on market agenda

NEW YORK, April 30. (AP): In their search for some likely event to break the recent stalemate in the stock market, many analysts are looking to next Friday's report on employment.

Wall Streeters expect the Labour Department data to set the tone for the numerous other statistics on the economy for April that will be issued over the next several weeks.

They also believe the Federal Reserve will take a close look at the numbers as it considers what monetary policies it should pursue.

Strength

Public notice focuses most directly on the unemployment rate, which dropped to 5.6 per cent in March, hitting its lowest level since July 1979.

Participants in the securities markets, however, pay more

attention to other elements of the report — for instance, the net change in what the government calls "non-farm payrolls."

This number is closely watched as a gauge of the economy's overall strength — and of the prospective outlook for interest rates and inflation.

Thus, while strong growth in employment is a positive for consumer spending and near-term corporate profits, it also is viewed as a potential negative for stock prices.

Payroll employment grew by a larger-than-expected 262,000 workers in March.

"Recent trends in initial claims for unemployment insurance suggest that the April non-farm payroll gain will be at least 200,000," said Mitchell Held, an analyst at Smith Barney, Harris Upham and Co. financial firm.

In Held's appraisal, the Federal Reserve would like to see strength in the economy concentrated in the manufacturing sector. Manufacturing jobs registered a slight decline in March.

By now, many followers of the securities markets are used to the "good news is bad news" reasoning that Wall Street often applies to statistics such as the employment figures.

Dramatic

Nevertheless, even hardened veterans of the game acknowledge there is something dramatic right now in the difference between the apparently robust state of the economy and the rampant pessimism in the markets.

"Catastrophic ... paralysed ... numb could all be used to describe the average investor in recent months," said James

Stack in his advisory letter Investech.

"Those who are out of the market are too terrified of another crash to step in. Investors who were heavily invested in the crash are just as afraid of not recouping their losses if they jump out now."

In the past week, which produced some of the quietest trading days of the year to date, the Dow Jones average of 30 industrials managed a 17.24 gain to 2,032.33.

Reputation

The New York Stock Exchange composite index rose 1.30 to 148.33; the Nasdaq Composite index for the over-the-counter market increased 5.20 to 379.24; and the American Stock Exchange market value index gained 5.11 to 303.14.

Volume on the Big Board averaged 141.47 million shares a day, down from 155.02 million the week before.

From the mid-1960s through the mid-1980s, May and June acquired a well-earned reputation as a perilous period for stock prices, with numerous and sometimes sharp declines.

Yale Hirsch, publisher of the stock trader's Almanac, dubbed it the "May-June disaster area."

But whether this pattern was a product of mere coincidence or the result of some force undiscernable to the ordinary mortal, it seems to have been broken in the last three years.

From the end of April to the end of June, the Dow Jones industrials rose 6.2 per cent in 1985; 6.1 per cent in 1986, and 5.8 per cent in 1987, according to Hirsch's reckoning.

Indonesia expects \$2.80b in new oil investments

JAKARTA, April 30. (Opecna): Indonesia is expecting investments of about \$2.80 billion in its oil sector this year, according to a senior official of Pertamina, the Indonesian state oil company.

Djoemardi Djoekardi, head of Pertamina's coordinating agency for foreign oil contractors, said at least four more production-sharing contracts would be signed this year as part of the investment drive.

Since the beginning of 1988, Pertamina has signed four production-sharing deals with foreign oil companies.

Djoemardi said the projected agreements indicated that the oil sector was still attractive for foreign investors.

Finland to give \$1m credit to Nepal project

ROME, April 30. (Opecna): Finland is to extend a \$1 million grant to co-finance a production credit for a Nepalese rural project initiated by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (Ifad).

The grant is supplementary to the loan agreement signed early this month in France between Finland and the fund.

The project, the first of its kind in the country, aims at improving the economic condition and social status of rural women and will benefit the poorest segments of the female population.

World Business Summary

Soviet-UAE oil accord being discussed: envoy

ABU DHABI, April 30. (Reuters): The Soviet Union and the UAE are discussing an agreement to market each other's oil in their respective regions, Moscow's UAE ambassador was quoted as saying. Felix Fedotov told the UAE Petroleum Industry magazine, in an interview to be published next week, that the pact involved introducing a new market system in both countries. "Under the accord we will facilitate the sale of UAE oil and gas products in the states neighbouring us while Soviet products will be sold in the Gulf region," he said. The UAE established diplomatic ties with Moscow in 1985, the third Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) state to do so after Kuwait and Oman. It produces around 950,000 barrels of oil per day under an Opec agreement limiting production. Fedotov did not say whether the proposed marketing agreement would cover GCC states without diplomatic ties with Moscow — Bahrain, Qatar and Saudi Arabia. He said the Soviet Union, which is not a member of Opec (the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries), was working with the group to promote the interests of world oil producers. He cited what he said were detailed talks on cooperation with Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. He added that he expected oil prices to rise by the end of the century since "there was at present no viable alternative to oil energy in sight except nuclear power."

Banks not doing enough on Third World debt, says US

WASHINGTON, April 30. (Reuters): Commercial banks need to show more imagination and vigour in tackling the Third World debt crisis instead of waiting for governments to bail them out, a senior US treasury official said on Wednesday. David Mulford, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, criticised bankers who expect governments to support sweeping debt relief plans or extensive use of World Bank guarantees of commercial loans. "This is a reactive, passive posture which does not advance the process. I fear it constitutes the present position of most banks," Mulford, the Treasury's top international debt expert, told the Bankers' Association for Foreign Trade in Boca Raton, Florida. A text of his speech was released in Washington. Bankers have been urging governments for years to increase lending to developing countries and to grant more generous repayment terms on old debts. Mulford, using unusually strong language for a treasury official, rebuffed the charge that governments are not doing enough to ease the debt crisis. He said governments have rescheduled principal and interest payments, fostered a sound global economy, increased their support for multilateral financial institutions such as the World Bank and helped debtors by making bridge loans at critical moments. "The banks should take note of this contribution, stop complaining in ignorance about the role of creditor governments and get more firmly behind the cooperative effort to find new ways and means for making progress a practical basis in solving this burdensome problem," Mulford said.

Price of imported goods rises 1.2pc

WASHINGTON, April 30. (AP): The price of imported goods, one of the main inflationary threats facing the US economy, rose 1.2 per cent in the first three months of the year, a slight improvement from the end of last year, the government reported yesterday. The Labour Department said the first quarter increase followed a 1.6 per cent rise in import prices in the last three months of 1987 and credited the slowdown to continued declines in energy costs and a more stable dollar. The price of oil and other imported energy products fell 8 per cent during the first quarter. Without this decline, overall import prices would have risen by 2.3 per cent, almost twice as fast as the actual overall increase. At the same time, the cost of American products being sold overseas rose by 1.4 per cent during the first quarter, a drop from a 2 per cent increase in the final three months of 1987. This change was credited to a big slowdown in the cost of exported food products, which rose only 0.6 per cent in the first quarter after shooting up by 9.1 per cent in the fourth quarter. Foreign cars and machinery, which account for nearly one-half of all US imports, rose 1.7 per cent in the first quarter after increasing 2.7 per cent in the fourth quarter. During the first quarter, the dollar declined against other currencies by 1.4 per cent, a substantial slowdown from a 5.8 per cent plunge in the dollar's value during the fourth quarter.

US leading indicators rise 0.8 pc

WASHINGTON, April 30. (Reuters): The index of leading economic indicators, the government's main gauge of future business activity, rose a strong 0.8 per cent in March, the US Commerce Department said yesterday.

The increase, which was in line with expectations, followed a revised 1.3 per cent gain in February and was consistent with the White House's forecast that the economy should keep growing at a moderate pace this election year.

The increase in the set of March indicators was broadly based, with six of the nine indicators that were available contributing positively to the index, the government said.

February's 1.3 per cent rise, the largest since December 1986, was revised up from the Commerce Department's original

estimate of 0.9 per cent in light of subsequent information on the amount of credit outstanding.

Taken together, the two months of figures portray an economy that had recovered its momentum after the shock of October's stock market crash.

Face

Gross National Product (GNP) data issued on Tuesday showed the economy growing at an annual rate of 2.3 per cent in the first quarter of the year, a pace that the leading indicators suggest could be matched in the months ahead, economists said.

White House chief economist Beryl Sprinkel said after the GNP figures that he remained confident of his 1988 forecast of moderate 2.4 per cent growth accompanied by restrained inflation, a recipe that Republicans hope will help Vice President George Bush to win November's

presidential election.

But the financial markets were worried that the economy is growing too vigorously and that inflation will accelerate.

Yields on 30-year government bonds, which largely determine mortgage and corporate bond rates, rose to 9.13 per cent from 9.10 per cent at Thursday's close as traders saw in the leading indicators more evidence of a strong economy.

The Commerce Department said stock prices contributed most to the 0.8 per cent increase in the March index.

Supplies

A drop in average weekly initial claims for unemployment benefits, the speed with which companies receive supplies from vendors, building permits, money supply and changes in sensitive materials prices were also positive.

Three indicators were negative. They were the length of the average work week, orders for plant and equipment, and new orders received by manufacturers of consumer goods and materials.

The US index of coincident indicators, which measures the current economy, rose 0.3 per cent in March after rising 0.6 per cent in February, the government said.

Measures

The index of lagging indicators, which measures past economic activity, rose 0.4 per cent in March after rising 0.5 per cent in February.

The ratio of coincident to lagging indicators, which some economists believe signals changes in the economy sooner than the leading index, fell to 120.4 in March from 120.5 in February.

Egypt plans to cut its crude exports

Proposed oil deal hinges on Riyadh assent

VIENNA, Austria, April 30. (AP): Opec moved a key step closer today to an agreement that could boost oil prices slightly and set the stage for closer coordination with oil producers outside its ranks.

But clinching the potentially historic deal required the approval of oil ministers from Saudi Arabia and its three Gulf Arab allies, who said they needed to consult their governments first.

A meeting of all Opec oil ministers was set for tonight at the organisation's headquarters, but it was not certain that a final decision would be made then.

Prices

Eight of the 13 members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries agreed in a meeting that ended early today to a proposed 2 per cent cut in the group's total oil production, according to oil ministers from Iran and Venezuela.

The cuts would be for May and June only, said Venezuelan Oil Minister Arturo Hernandez Grisanti.

The Saudis earlier had

indicated they were opposed to production cuts, believing that prices would rebound soon anyway, since oil demand is likely to rise this summer.

Saudi King Fahd said in a newspaper interview on Thursday that Opec should simply stick to its current set of production quotas, which often are exceeded. He did not explicitly rule out cuts as small as those proposed in Vienna.

Besides Saudi Arabia, the others that said they wanted to think over the proposal were Kuwait, Qatar and the UAE.

Iraq, which is not party to Opec's existing agreement on production limits, was not expected to participate in the proposed cuts. Venezuela's Hernandez said.

Goal

The eight that tentatively accepted the deal this morning were Iran, Algeria, Libya, Nigeria, Gabon, Venezuela, Ecuador and Indonesia. The proposal was put on the table by Algeria.

The proposed cuts in output, in conjunction with similarly

small cuts by a group of six independent oil-producing nations, would remove a total of 500,000 barrels a day from the world oil market.

The goal is to lift oil prices to Opec's target of \$18 a barrel from the current range of between \$14 and \$16.

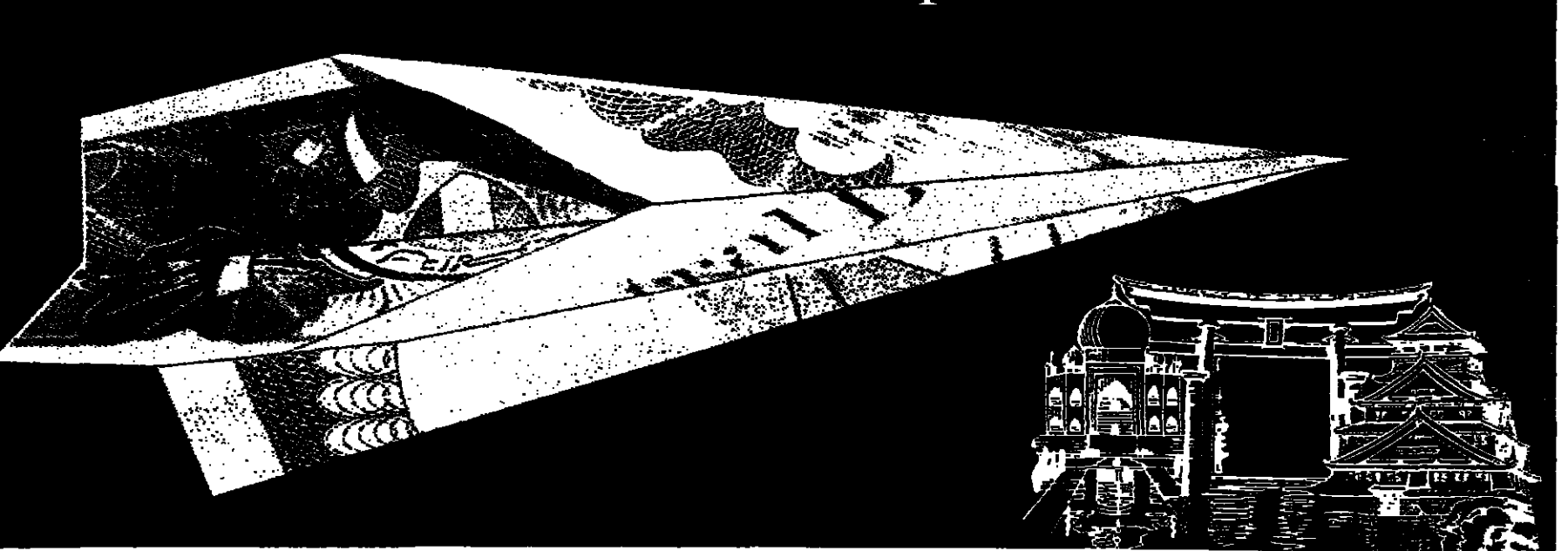
Oil prices on the open market moved erratically in nervous trading on Friday. Prices fell more than 60 cents a barrel in Europe but recovered in later US trading.

On the New York Mercantile

Exchange, June contracts for West Texas Intermediate, the main US grade of oil, closed at \$17.99 a barrel, up one cent from Thursday. At one point the price was off 43 cents but then recovered.

The proposed Opec cuts are so small that analysts said the main effect on the market would be psychological. For Opec, the principal benefit would be the establishment of closer ties to rival oil producers, who in recent years have weakened Opec by taking away its market share.

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Discover the difference

Kuwait trade volume surges in more active market

Banking sector continues its lead

ALSHALL index for Kuwaiti shareholding companies recorded on Wednesday an average of 36.62 points with a slight increase of 0.28 points over last week's. Alshall index for Gulf shareholding companies reached 46.86 points with a decrease of 0.56 points for the same period.

The trading volume for Kuwaiti shares reached 16.34 million shares at a daily average of 3.27 million shares with an increase of 74 per cent over the previous week's daily average of 1.88 million shares.

Gulf traded shares reached 17.38 million shares at a daily average of 3.48 million shares with an increase of 26.5 per cent over last week's daily average of 2.75 million shares. The value of Kuwaiti traded shares was KD4,047 million at a daily average of KD0.809 million, an increase of 72 per cent over last week's daily average of KD0.471 million.

The value of Gulf traded shares was KD0.737 million at a daily average of KD0.147 million, an increase of 68 per cent over last week's daily average of KD0.088 million.

The performance of the market was more active on the whole than last week's. The activity was clear in the Kuwaiti shares which reduced the gap between the two indices from about 11 to 10 points in favour of Gulf shares.

The Banking Sector continued its lead in the Kuwaiti market at 44.4 per cent of total trading, of which the Gulf Bank had 46 per cent, followed by the Commercial Bank at 16 per cent and Kuwait Finance House at 14 per cent.

The Services Sector came second at 29.2 per cent of total trading of which Commercial Markets Co. had the greatest share at 74 per cent, followed by Mobile Telephone Systems at 23 per cent and Kuwait Computer Co. at 2 per cent.

The Investment Sector came third at 12 per cent of total trading, of which Commercial Facilities had the lead at 55 per cent, followed by IFA at 30 per cent and Investment Pearl Kuwait at 12 per cent.

As for the Gulf shares market, the Financial Sector resumed its lead at 58 per cent, after losing it for a considerable period of time.

Bahrain International Bank had the lead at 41 per cent of total Gulf shares market, followed by Ras Al Khaima White Cement at 30 per cent, and Fujairah Cement at 13 per cent. The favourable turn of events concerning the hijacked Kuwaiti plane and the liberation of the "Fay" in the Iraq-Iran war, could have been the cause of this increase in market activity. We still expect this slight increase in activity to continue in the short run, as it has a general influence on the market environment and is not related to the actual performance of the companies.

Kuwait shareholding companies index

	Wednesday 27/04/88	Wednesday 20/04/88	Change points
Banking Sector			
Kuwait National Bank	87.25	87.25	—
The Gulf Bank	27.76	27.25	0.51
The Commercial Bank	21.08	20.90	0.17
Al Ahli Bank	26.43	26.43	—
Bank of Kuwait & M. East	26.31	26.31	—
Kuwait R. Estate Bank	28.97	29.37	-0.40
Burgan Bank	23.59	23.39	0.20
Kuwait Finance House	61.23	61.98	-0.76
Sector Index	38.45	38.37	0.08
Investment Sector			
Kuwait Investment Co.	31.96	30.85	1.10

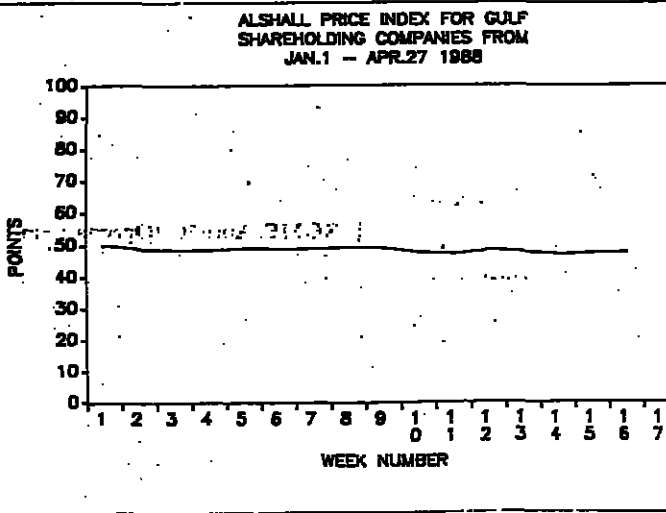
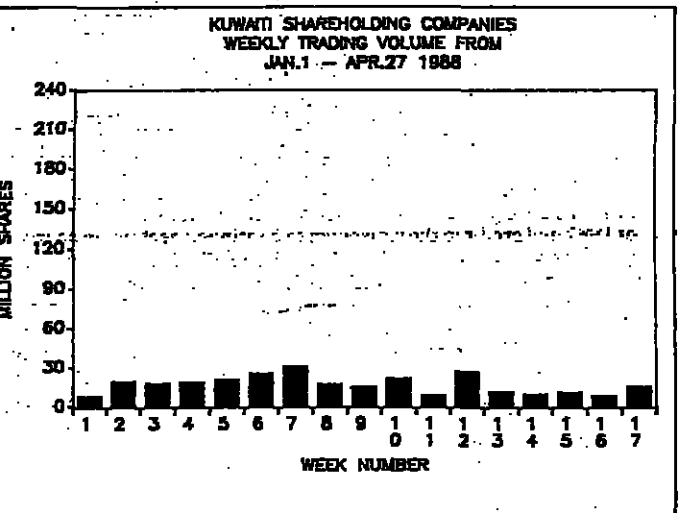
Kuwait Int. Invest. Co.	28.87	26.12	2.75
Inv. Pearl Kuwait	82.54	82.54	—
IFA	75.00	75.00	—
Commercial Facilities	98.75	95.00	3.75
Sector Index	40.46	38.74	1.72
Insurance Sector			
Kuwait Insurance Co.	39.14	37.51	1.63
Gulf Insurance Co.	28.46	28.46	—
Al Ahlia Insurance Co.	45.98	45.09	0.88
Warba Insurance Co.	71.31	71.31	—
Sector Index	39.19	38.19	1.00
Real Estate Sector			
Kuwait Real Estate	30.59	30.59	—
United Realty	13.18	13.18	—
National Real Estate	45.39	45.39	—
Sector Index	22.89	22.99	—
Industrial Sector			
Kuwait Cement Co.	16.22	16.22	—
Refrigeration Indust.	80.51	80.51	—
Gulf Cables	100.79	99.76	1.03
Kuwait Pharmaceutical	62.22	47.11	15.11
Sector Index	31.89	31.17	0.82
Services Sector			
Kuwait Computer Co.	200.88	205.20	-4.32
Kuwait Cinema Co.	9.04	9.04	—
Public Warehousing Co.	67.68	68.69	-1.01
Kuwait Comm. Markets Co.	40.95	40.95	—
Mobile Telephone Syst.	342.86	338.10	4.76
Sector Index	62.02	61.82	0.20
Food Sector			
Livestock Trad. & Transp.	44.75	46.79	-2.03
United Fisheries	10.34	10.34	—
Kuwait United Poultry	87.28	87.28	—
Kuwait Food Co.	65.52	65.52	—
Sector Index	41.10	41.86	-0.76
Overall Index	36.62	36.34	0.28

Gulf shareholding companies index

	Wednesday 27/04/88	Wednesday 20/04/88	Change points
Financial Companies			
First Gulf Bank	163.16	163.16	—
United Gulf Bank	34.48	34.48	—
Bahrain Internat. Bank	91.03	92.41	-1.38
Bahrain M. East Bank	77.83	85.42	-7.59
Gulf Investments Co.	61.03	61.03	—
Coast Inv. & Dev. Co.	74.29	75.24	-0.95
Bahrain Kuwait Inv. Gro.	65.71	65.71	—
Arabian Gen. Inv. (Shuaa)	60.61	59.85	0.76
Sector Index	61.81	62.62	-0.71
Other Companies			
Gulf Cement (fully paid)	12.83	12.83	—
Sharjah Cement	10.50	10.50	—
Fujairah Cement	9.87	10.53	-0.66
Ras Al Khaima W. Cement	25.56	26.11	-0.56
Gulf Medical Projects	18.21	18.21	—
Sector Index	15.30	15.56	-0.26
Overall Index	46.86	47.42	-0.56

Base Period 31/12/1983.

Provided by Alshall Economic Consultants



KD deposit rates steady in quiet trading

KUWAITI dinar deposit rates were steady yesterday in quiet trading except for a surge in overnight funds, dealers said.

The Central Bank announced a new three-month treasury bill issue, the ninth since a public borrowing scheme was launched last November, for 100 million dinars on Wednesday.

But there was no immediate effect on liquidity. Banks bought substantial sums in treasury bills from the Central Bank on the secondary market last week.

Overnight shot up to deal at 6-1/2 and six per cent from one and 1/2 per cent on Thursday. But other short dates and fixed periods stayed close to Thursday's ranges. Banks are closed on Friday.

Tomorrow's next deal at 6-1/2 and 5-1/2 per cent, climbed to Thursday's seven, six per cent levels then slipped early in the afternoon to five per cent offers.

Spot-next was quiet at 5-1/2, 4-1/2 per cent while one-week dealt at six and 6-1/4 per cent.

The fixed periods were unchanged from Thursday at 6-1/8, 5-7/8 per cent for the one-month, six, 5-3/4 per cent for the two and three-month and 5-7/8, 5/8 per cent for the six to 12-month funds.

The Central Bank's dinar exchange rate was softer at 0.27383/93 to the dollar from Thursday's 0.27349/59. Commercial banks quoted spot rates of around 0.27356/93.

Meanwhile, Saudi rial inter-bank deposits were marked higher yesterday on the back of firmer dollar interest rates, but the market remained dull due to the European weekend and the Muslim holy month of Ramadan.

Dealers said fixed period rates firmed by around 1/8 point in response to a similar rise in Eurodollar rates on Friday following upward revisions in January and February leading US indicators which raised worries about inflation.

Rial deposits often closely track dollar interest rates and there have been no fresh factors to give the rial market direction since Ramadan began two weeks ago.

Short-term rial rates remained steady, with spot-next indicated at 6-3/4, 1/2 per cent. One-week was also little changed at 6-7/8, 3/8 per cent.

One and three-month deposits rose to 6-15/16, 13/16 per cent and 7-1/8, seven per cent respectively, while six-month edged up 1/16 points to 7-5/16, 3/16 per cent.

Currency rates

FOLLOWING are international currency rates as quoted by local banks and announced by the Central Bank of Kuwait yesterday.

	Buying	Selling
US dollar	2.7315	2.7461
Sterling	1.6259	1.6395
S. fr.	1.9525	1.9700
F. fr.	0.4784	0.4826
It. lira	0.0021800	0.0021969
Bh. dinar	7.2443	7.2870
UAE dir.	0.7436	0.7479
S. rial	0.07279	0.07326
Q. rial	0.07501	0.07547
O. rial	0.70920	0.71421

Interest Rates

FOLLOWING are the average KD interest rates of local inter-bank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait yesterday.

Period	Bid	Offered
1 month	5 3/4	6 1/8
3 months	5 5/8	6
6 months	5 5/8	6
1 year	5 9/16	6

China seeks overseas investment

New law on foreign joint ventures approved

BEIJING, April 30, (AP): China has added another plank to a slowly emerging structure of laws governing the foreign investments its leaders are seeking so desperately.

The new joint venture law approved this month by China's legislature is the first to set any rules at all for the most popular kind of joint ventures, which are called cooperatives. These allow foreign partners to recover their investments quickly.

The law appeared timed to coincide with China's new plans to develop its coastal cities into high-tech export centres, with foreign capital expected to play a key role.

Approved But businessmen said no single law, however badly needed, was likely to bring the rapid growth in foreign investment China seeks.

Too many other problems persist: shortages of promised raw materials, inadequate energy supplies, excessive red tape and poorly trained workers.

Despite the absence of ground rules, 5,100 of the 9,700 foreign

KUWAIT

BANK SECTOR	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE
NATIONAL BANK	0.680	0.870	0.870	0.870	570000	16
GULF BANK	0.335	0.340	0.345	0.340	880000	19
COMMERCIAL BK	0.262	0.264	0.264	0.262	340000	6
AHLI BANK	0.275	0.270	0.270	0.270	10000	1
B.K.H.E.	0.300	—	—	—	—	—
K.R.E.B.	0.365	—	—	—	—	—
BURGAM BANK	0.258	—	—	—	—	—
K.F. HOUSE	0.405	0.405	0.405	0.405	40000	1
INVESTMENT SECTOR						
KWT INV. CO.	0.174	0.180	0.184	0.180	40000	2
K.F.T.C.I.C.	0.210	—	—	—	—	—
K.I.I.C.	0.168	—	—	—	—	—
COM. FACILITIES	0.395	0.400	0.400	0.400	180000	6
AHLIA INV.	0.000	—	—	—	—	—
I.F.A.	0.102	—	—	—	—	—
INV. PEARL KWT	0.104	—	—	—	—	—
INSURANCE SECTOR						
KWT INSURANCE	0.720	—	—	—	—	—
GULF INSURANCE	0.370	—	—	—	—	—
AHLIA INS. CO.	0.520	—	—	—	—	—
WARBA INS. CO.	0.415	—	—	—	—	—
REAL ESTATE SECTOR						
KWT R.E. CO.	0.240	—	—	—	—	—
UNI R.E. CO.	0.118	0.118	0.118	0.118	520000	2
NAT R.E. CO.	0.224	—	—	—	—	—
SALHAIR R.E.	0.075	—	—	—	—	—
KWT PROJECTS	0.086	—	—	—	—	—
KWT R.E.I. CON	0.000	—	—	—	—	—
INDUSTRY SECTOR						
NAT IND. CO.	0.510	—	—	—	—	—
KWT N.P. IND.	0.285	—	—	—	—	—
KWT CEMENT CO.	0.258	—	—	—	—	—
REF. IND. CO.	0.385	—	—	—	—	—
N.A.M.T. CO.	0.000	—	—	—	—	—
GULF CABLE	0.980	0.990	0.990	0.990	5000	1
K.P.H. IND. CO.	0.140	0.140	0.140	0.140	20000	1
CON. MARINE	0.350	—	—	—	—	—
K.S.H.R.P.	0.042	—	—	—	—	—
SERVICES SECTOR						
OVERLAND TRANS	0.081	—	—	—	—	—
K.N.C. CO.	0.190	—	—	—	—	—
KWT HOTELS CO.	0.174	—	—	—	—	—
P.WAREHOUSING	0.134	—	—	—	—	—
COM. MKT. CMX.	0.020	0.020	0.020	0.020	160000	1
MOBILE TELE.	0.360	0.360	0.360	0.360	100000	1
KWT COMPUTER	0.186	—	—	—	—	—
FOOD SECTOR						
LIVESTOCK T.T.	0.220	0.220	0.220	0.220	20000	1
UNITO FISHERIES	0.146	—	—	—	—	—
UNITO POULTRY	0.258	—	—	—	—	—
KWT FOODS	0.285	—	—	—	—	—
AGRI. FOOD PRD.	0.150	—	—	—	—	—
KWT KITCHEN	0.066	—	—	—	—	—
BHW. INTER. BK	0.041	—	—	—	—	—
UNITO GULF BK	0.000	—	—	—	—	—
COAST INVEST.	0.078	—	—	—	—	—
A.G. INV. CORP.	0.040	—	—	—	—	—
FIRST GULF BK	0.620	—	—	—	—	—
B.K.I.G.	0.085	—	—	—	—	—

KUWAIT STOCK EXCHANGE

COMPANIES LISTED ON THE PARALLEL MARKET	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE
PEARL INV. CO.	0.098	—	—	—	—	—
GULF INV. CO.	0.041	—	—	—	—	—
GULF INTL. INS.	0.009	—	—	—	—	—
ARAB INT. CO.	0.055	—	—	—	—	—
SHARJAH INS.	0.000	—	—	—	—	—
GULF UNION INS.	0.055	—	—	—	—	—

INDUSTRIAL SECTOR

B-GULF MEDICAL	0.016	—	—	—	—	—
C-K.W. WHITE CHMT	0.023	—	—	—	—	—
D-AJMAN CEMENT	0.007	—	—	—	—	—
E-FUJAIRAH CEMENT	0.007	—	—	—	—	—
F-SHARJAH CEMENT	0.017	—	—	—	—	—
G-GULF CEMENT	0.015	—	—	—	—	—
H-UMM QATHM	0.019	—	—	—	—	—

MEXICO CITY, April 30, (AP): After shrinking sharply in 1986 mostly due to falling world oil prices, Mexico's inflation-ridden economy showed a modest growth last year, the nation's Central Bank reported yesterday.

In its annual report, the Bank of Mexico said the gross national product grew by 1.4 per cent in 1987, after declining 4 per cent the previous year.

Industrial production during 1987 rose overall by 2.9 per cent — with mining up by 6.9 per cent, electrical production 6.1 per cent, manufacture by 2.1 per cent and construction by 2.2 per cent among the industrial leaders, the report said.

But the annual rate of inflation — as measured by the consumer price index — soared from 105.7 per cent in 1986 to 159.2 per cent last year, the report said.

Services during the year rose 1.2 per cent, but agriculture dropped by 0.3 per cent.

According to the report, Mexico's balance of payments similarly improved from a deficit of \$1.7 billion in 1986 to a \$3.9 billion surplus last year as a result

of a substantial improvement in the terms of the country's trade structure.

Income from non-petroleum exports during that period rose by an unprecedented 24 per cent as a result of a new overall drive to sell more abroad, and income from petroleum exports rose 37 per cent, while imports dropped by 7 per cent and foreign debt service payments by 2 per cent.

At \$105 billion, Mexico's is the biggest foreign debt among developing nations after Brazil.

Direct foreign investments in 1987 totalled \$3.2 billion, and the country showed a net foreign currency income of 1.199 billion, while foreign currency reserves rose by \$6.9 billion to 13.7 billion by the end of 1987.

Treasury Secretary Gustavo Petricoli said last week that Mexico's foreign currency reserves currently stand at an all-time high of more than \$16 billion.

The government put into effect an economic solidarity pact in December, intended to reduce monthly inflation to 1 to 2 per cent by the end of the year.

THE GULF BANK

اگلے وقتوں کے بزرگ، ثواب کے پہلو اور مصومی کا کمال

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شفقت چھوٹ گیا تھا ان بچوں کے آنکھوں سے پچھلے
موسم پر سہرا چڑا کر ان پر نہیں دیکھائے گئے تھام
لی تھام ان کا لب پہنایا پر کرب کی گھر میں بڑھا اور
کے سامنے منڈلائے ہوئے دیکھ سنی کی گل کی اسی
سے آج بھی انھیں کے خواب ہمارے چھوٹ رہے ہیں۔
مے چہ، احباب کے ساتھ شیک بھوس
انوں اور دانشوروں کے عجائبات اور عجیبوں کے تمام کشتی

وہ گفتنی و ماکی کو رہنے کا راتے لائے جانے کے بارہو
ایسے دھاکے کا راتہ رہا تھا جس میں سرکاری امراء و حکام
کے مطابق دھاک ہوئے والوں کی تعداد سو سے زیادہ اور
ذہنیوں کی تعداد چار سو سے زیادہ ہے جبکہ حزب اختلاف اور
عوام الناس کو بھی شاہدوں کے مطابق یہ تعداد سترہ سو تک
گنت کی گئی ہے
کی نہ کی حوالے سے اکٹراؤ کا بارو سے واسطہ پڑتا

جو م

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احکام و معارف قرآن و سنت کی روشنی میں

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حج واداش
 انسانی غفلت میں بطور خود یکسنگی نہیں آتی
 ہوتی۔ (فہاس چن انگریز ادیب)
شعر واداشت
 دشت کے ذوق میں شاید کسی منزل کی گشتان
 تاقین کی دھول بھی کوئی خبر لائی نہیں
 صبح نو کی روشنی ہے ایک عالم پر محیط
 تیری میرے مقد کی عمر جاتی نہیں
 (جہان لہائی)
آج کے دن
 ۱۸۷۷ء..... برطانیہ اور کاسٹ لینڈ کے مابین
 ایک یومین طاعن کی تھنے کٹے پر دین کلام دیا
 گیا۔
 ۱۸۱۹ء..... فرانس میں پریس کو آزادی دی گئی۔
 ۱۸۹۶ء..... ایران کے فیصلہ الیہ شدہ قتل کر
 دیے گئے۔
 ۱۸۲۵ء..... قبرص کو برطانوی تاج کی کالونی
 قرار دیا گیا۔
 ۱۹۳۷ء..... امریکی صدر فرانکلن ڈی روز
 ویلٹ نے امریکی بغاوت دیاہی ایکٹ پر دستخط
 کیے۔
 ۱۹۲۳ء..... ہالینڈ کے نیوکیٹیا علاقہ، جو
 سابق ہالینڈ علاقہ تھا، اقوام متحدہ سے منتقل کر
 کے مغربی جرمنی کے سترام سے مشہور ہوا۔

برج میلند

جنگ لور

(۱۹ اپریل تا ۱۹ مئی)
 سب محضوں میں ہو گا اس لئے آپ کو دوسروں کو
 کرنے سے بچنا چاہئے۔ اعانہ ہی بہت زیادہ
 کریں۔ ہر ضروری خدمات دینے کے لئے
 تیار رہیں۔ شکایت کرنا اختیار نہ کریں۔

برج میزان

جوزا

(۲۰ مئی تا ۲۰ جون)
 سب محضوں میں ہو گا اس لئے آپ کو دوسروں کو
 کرنے سے بچنا چاہئے۔ اعانہ ہی بہت زیادہ
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 تیار رہیں۔ شکایت کرنا اختیار نہ کریں۔

برج عقرب

مرطبان

(۲۱ جون تا ۲۱ جولائی)
 سب محضوں میں ہو گا اس لئے آپ کو دوسروں کو
 کرنے سے بچنا چاہئے۔ اعانہ ہی بہت زیادہ
 کریں۔ ہر ضروری خدمات دینے کے لئے
 تیار رہیں۔ شکایت کرنا اختیار نہ کریں۔

برج قوس

اسد

(۲۲ جولائی تا ۲۲ اگست)
 سب محضوں میں ہو گا اس لئے آپ کو دوسروں کو
 کرنے سے بچنا چاہئے۔ اعانہ ہی بہت زیادہ
 کریں۔ ہر ضروری خدمات دینے کے لئے
 تیار رہیں۔ شکایت کرنا اختیار نہ کریں۔

برج جدی

دھنی

(۲۳ اگست تا ۲۳ ستمبر)
 سب محضوں میں ہو گا اس لئے آپ کو دوسروں کو
 کرنے سے بچنا چاہئے۔ اعانہ ہی بہت زیادہ
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 تیار رہیں۔ شکایت کرنا اختیار نہ کریں۔

برج دھنی

مکرات

(۲۴ ستمبر تا ۲۴ اکتوبر)
 سب محضوں میں ہو گا اس لئے آپ کو دوسروں کو
 کرنے سے بچنا چاہئے۔ اعانہ ہی بہت زیادہ
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 تیار رہیں۔ شکایت کرنا اختیار نہ کریں۔

برج مکران

مکرات

(۲۵ اکتوبر تا ۲۵ نومبر)
 سب محضوں میں ہو گا اس لئے آپ کو دوسروں کو
 کرنے سے بچنا چاہئے۔ اعانہ ہی بہت زیادہ
 کریں۔ ہر ضروری خدمات دینے کے لئے
 تیار رہیں۔ شکایت کرنا اختیار نہ کریں۔

برج قوس

اسد

(۲۶ نومبر تا ۲۶ دسمبر)
 سب محضوں میں ہو گا اس لئے آپ کو دوسروں کو
 کرنے سے بچنا چاہئے۔ اعانہ ہی بہت زیادہ
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 تیار رہیں۔ شکایت کرنا اختیار نہ کریں۔

برج جدی

دھنی

(۲۷ دسمبر تا ۲۷ جنوری)
 سب محضوں میں ہو گا اس لئے آپ کو دوسروں کو
 کرنے سے بچنا چاہئے۔ اعانہ ہی بہت زیادہ
 کریں۔ ہر ضروری خدمات دینے کے لئے
 تیار رہیں۔ شکایت کرنا اختیار نہ کریں۔

برج دھنی

مکرات

(۲۸ جنوری تا ۲۸ فبروری)
 سب محضوں میں ہو گا اس لئے آپ کو دوسروں کو
 کرنے سے بچنا چاہئے۔ اعانہ ہی بہت زیادہ
 کریں۔ ہر ضروری خدمات دینے کے لئے
 تیار رہیں۔ شکایت کرنا اختیار نہ کریں۔

برج مکران

مکرات

(۲۹ فبروری تا ۲۹ مارچ)
 سب محضوں میں ہو گا اس لئے آپ کو دوسروں کو
 کرنے سے بچنا چاہئے۔ اعانہ ہی بہت زیادہ
 کریں۔ ہر ضروری خدمات دینے کے لئے
 تیار رہیں۔ شکایت کرنا اختیار نہ کریں۔

برج قوس

اسد

(۳۰ مارچ تا ۳۰ اپریل)
 سب محضوں میں ہو گا اس لئے آپ کو دوسروں کو
 کرنے سے بچنا چاہئے۔ اعانہ ہی بہت زیادہ
 کریں۔ ہر ضروری خدمات دینے کے لئے
 تیار رہیں۔ شکایت کرنا اختیار نہ کریں۔

برج جدی

دھنی

(۳۱ اپریل تا ۳۱ مئی)
 سب محضوں میں ہو گا اس لئے آپ کو دوسروں کو
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 کریں۔ ہر ضروری خدمات دینے کے لئے
 تیار رہیں۔ شکایت کرنا اختیار نہ کریں۔

برج دھنی

مکرات

(۱ جون تا ۱ جولائی)
 سب محضوں میں ہو گا اس لئے آپ کو دوسروں کو
 کرنے سے بچنا چاہئے۔ اعانہ ہی بہت زیادہ
 کریں۔ ہر ضروری خدمات دینے کے لئے
 تیار رہیں۔ شکایت کرنا اختیار نہ کریں۔

برج مکران

مکرات

(۲ جولائی تا ۲ اگست)
 سب محضوں میں ہو گا اس لئے آپ کو دوسروں کو
 کرنے سے بچنا چاہئے۔ اعانہ ہی بہت زیادہ
 کریں۔ ہر ضروری خدمات دینے کے لئے
 تیار رہیں۔ شکایت کرنا اختیار نہ کریں۔

برج قوس

اسد

[illegible]

تحریر کی شہرت میں بیکہ کی نالی ہے لیکن اسرائیل مجھے
نہا رہی ہے کہ اسے کہہ لیں یہی چنگاری دوبارہ وسیع کر دے گا
وہ سن رہی ہے۔ گزشتہ روز قزاقوں کے بغیر سمجھاؤنی کے ارد
گرد پھولوں، گلیٹیوں نے جاپوں، ٹالے اور غریب
لگائے اس کے علاوہ بعض دیگر علاقوں میں بھی گزشتہ روز
مظاہرے ہوئے۔

[illegible][illegible]

SPORTS

IAAF plan rule changes to avoid repeat of Budd case

STOCKHOLM, April 30, (Reuters): The International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) are considering rule changes designed to make it difficult for South African athletes to switch nationalities to compete internationally.

IAAF Swedish vice-president Ljungqvist told Reuters yesterday proposals had been drawn up and could be considered as early as next month.

The move follows the controversy surrounding South African-born runner Zola Budd, granted British citizenship and the right to compete internationally within two weeks in 1984 and now alleged to have violated IAAF rules by participating in athletics meeting in her native republic last year.

Passports Black African nations are threatening to boycott September's Seoul Olympics if Budd and other South African-born athletes who they claim are competing under passports of convenience go to South Korea.

Ljungqvist said the new rules would require South Africans to live in their adopted countries for two or three years before being allowed to compete internationally.

"The purpose is to avoid Zola Budd cases in the future," he said.

Earlier this month, the IAAF recommended that the British Amateur Athletic Board (BAAB) ban Budd for 12 months following claims that she was involved in meetings in Brakpan and Randfontein.

Budd is currently under suspension while a committee of inquiry set up by the BAAB last weekend investigates her eligibility to continue representing Britain. The BAAB is due to rule on the IAAF's recommendation next month.

The Supreme Council for Sport in Africa (SCSA) said earlier this week that it was against all South African-born athletes being allowed to compete internationally after switching nationalities.

Considered Ljungqvist said the proposals, drafted by the IAAF office in London, are scheduled to be considered at the next council meeting in Seoul in September. But he said they could be discussed at an extraordinary council meeting which may be called late next month.

South Africans are currently allowed to switch nationalities within weeks because the republic is suspended by the IAAF because of its apartheid (racial segregation) policies.

The proposed rule changes would bring South Africans into line with athletes from the rest of the world who at present have to fulfil a three-year residential qualification before being allowed to represent a new nation.

Ljungqvist said he thought the IAAF council would eventually adopt the changes: "I expect a majority in favour of the proposal," he said.

The Swede also said the IAAF stood firmly behind its threat to strip British athletes participating in Seoul unless the BAAB complies with its recommendation to ban Budd.

"Suspending a member federation would be a unique, unprecedented move, but it is a clear possibility," he said.

EVANS TAKES RED SOX TO WIN OVER TWINS

Orioles end record-setting losing streak

CHICAGO, April 30, (AP): The Baltimore Orioles ended their 21-game losing streak last night by winning their first game of the season, 9-0 over the Chicago White Sox on a four-hitter by Mark Williamson and Dave Schmidt.

Baltimore manager Frank Robinson predicted this week that it would take a shutout to end the Orioles' skid, and they got it as only one Chicago runner got past first base. Williamson, 1-0, allowed three hits over six innings in his fourth big League start and Schmidt finished for a save.

Eddie Murray's two-run homer in the first inning got the Orioles standing and cheering in the dugout, and this time they couldn't find a way to lose. Cal Ripken went 4-for-5 with a homer and double, and rookie Pete Stanick, promoted from the minors earlier in the day, singled and scored in the fifth and sparked a four-run seventh with an RBI double.

The Orioles, who established the longest losing streak in American League history with Thursday's defeat in Minnesota, stopped short of the Major League mark of 23 consecutive losses by Philadelphia Phillies in 1961.

Baltimore won all six games at Comiskey Park last season, and three cases of champagne were on ice and waiting for the Orioles in their clubhouse after this victory. It was their reward for ending the worst start in Major League history and a team-record losing streak. Baltimore also had its final five exhibition games.

A crowd of 14,059 sat quietly in 56-degree (13-degree Celsius) weather as Baltimore stopped its march of misery.

Robinson had watched his club go 0-15 after replacing the fired Cal Ripken Sr.

Yankees 2, Rangers 1 John Candelaria tossed a five-hitter, leading the New York Yankees to a 2-1 victory over Charlie Hough and the Texas Rangers, who lost their seventh in 10 games.

Candelaria, 2-2 struck out eight and walked only one, allowing the only Rangers run when Pete Incaviglia led off the second inning with his fourth home run of the season.

Tigers 9, Mariners 6 Alan Trammell broke out of a weeklong slump with three hits and three RBI as the Detroit Tigers beat the Seattle Mariners 9-6. Trammell, who had only three hits in the Tigers' eight previous games, drove in Chet Lemon with the go-ahead run in the seventh.



Orioles' Luis Salazar forces Mariners' Ken Phelps out on 2nd base but fails to make the relay for double play. (Reuter wirephoto)

With the score tied 6-6, Lemon started the inning with his second double and scored on Trammell's second double. Larry Herndon doubled Trammell home, chasing Seattle starter Mark Langston, 1-3. Jim Walwander, running for Herndon, moved up on a bunt and scored on a sacrifice fly by Tom Brookens.

Angels 9, Blue Jays 5 Johnny Ray had three hits and three RBI, and scored the tie-breaking run in the eighth inning on Devon White's triple, giving the California Angels a 9-5 victory over the Toronto Blue Jays.

Toronto lost its fifth straight despite coming back from a 5-2 deficit to tie the score 5-5.

Royals 7, Brewers 2 Kurt Stillwell had three of Kansas City's 13 hits, and Bret Saberhagen scattered eight hits in eight innings as the Royals beat the Milwaukee Brewers 7-2.

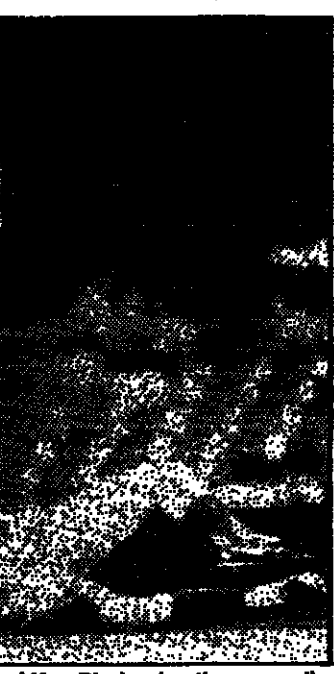
Saberhagen, 3-2, struck out six and walked none, and shut out the Brewers on four hits through seven innings. Dan Quisenberry retired the side in the ninth.

Red Sox 6, Twins 5 Dwight Evans hit a one-out sacrifice fly with the bases loaded in the 10th inning, lifting the Boston Red Sox to a 6-5 victory over Minnesota and spoiling a Twins comeback led by two home runs from Gary Gaetti.

Boston starter Roger Clemens allowed only four hits in eight innings, including Geatti's first homer of the game, but failed to get through the ninth with a 5-2 lead.

Mets 5, Reds 4 Keith Hernandez singled home Tim Lincecum from second base with two outs in the ninth inning to snap a tie and give the New York Mets a 5-4 victory over the Cincinnati Reds.

With two outs, Teufel doubled off reliever Rob Murphy, 0-1 and scored on Hernandez's slicing single to left field. Hernandez also doubled home a run in the fourth, and has 11 RBI in his last three games.



Orioles' Eddie Murray (right) is greeted by 3rd base coach John Hart as he heads for home after hitting a 2-run homer. (Reuter wirephoto)

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Hawks overcome Bucks

Celtics fight back to crush Knicks

NEW YORK, April 30, (AP): The Boston Celtics, who haven't lost a first-round playoff series since 1956, looked like they were in for a tough battle for a while last night.

But a Kevin McHale turned a 74-71 deficit into a 103-83 Boston lead, and the Celtics went on to defeat the New York Knicks 112-92 in their NBA playoff opener last night.

McHale scored 12 of his 29 points during the second-half surge, and Larry Bird also scored 29 for the Celtics.

In other playoff openers last night, Atlanta edged Milwaukee 110-107 and Denver beat Seattle 126-123. The Los Angeles Lakers played host to San Antonio in a late game.

This evening, it's Houston at Dallas, Washington at Detroit and Utah at Portland. Tomorrow's games have New York at Boston, Cleveland at Chicago, Seattle at Denver, Milwaukee at Atlanta and San Antonio at Los Angeles.

Hawks 110, Bucks 107 Kevin Willis hit four straight free throws in the final 1:22 as Atlanta overcame a 14-point deficit in the second half and edged Milwaukee.

The Bucks took the lead for the last time at 93-92 on a jumper by Paul Pressey with 6:22 left. Dominique Wilkins, who led Atlanta with 26 points, then put the Hawks ahead to stay with 6:09 to go.

The Bucks, however, stayed close down the stretch before Willis, who had 22 points, hit two free throws for a 104-101 lead with 1:22 left.

Nuggets 126, Sonics 123 Lafayette Lever hit an 18-foot baseline jumper with 22 seconds left and added a pair of free throws with 10 seconds remaining, lifting Denver over Seattle.

The Nuggets, relying on a decisive free-throw advantage that saw them outscore the Sonics 41-21 from the line, rebounded from a 15-point second-quarter deficit.

Lever gave Denver its first lead of the second half, 120-119, with two free throws with 2:27 left. Sonics rookie Derrick McKey hit a free throw at 1:22 to produce a 120-120 tie, but Alex English then scored on a short jumper 17 seconds later, giving Denver the lead for good.

Lakers 122, Spurs 110 James Worthy scored 22 points and Kurt Rambis had 19 last night as the Los Angeles Lakers opened the NBA playoffs with a 122-110 victory over the San Antonio Spurs.

The defending champion Lakers, beginning their drive to become the first team in 19 years to win consecutive NBA titles, built a 60-49 lead in the second quarter and were comfortably in front the rest of the way.

The second game of the best-of-five series is tomorrow night at the Forum. The series then shifts to San Antonio. With the third game scheduled Tuesday night.

Rare Fowler snatched his share of the lead by scoring his best run in the season marked by rare consistency — he has not shot worse than two-over-par all season.

No such performance was turned in by first-round co-leader Derrick Cooper who soared to a 75 to stand four strokes back along with nine others at 143.

Four players were grouped on 141, including Britons Colin Montgomerie and Mark James, and Americans John Slaughter and John Jacobs.

AUSTIN, Texas, April 30, (AP): Bob Charles and Bruce Devlin combined for an 8-under-par 62 and sole control of the second-round lead yesterday at the Legends of Golf tournament.

overs (T. Alderman five for 75, D. Graveney three for 50). Gloucestershire 76 for three off 26 overs (A. Stovold 50 not out).

At Old Trafford: Warwickshire 155 in 67.5 overs and 153 for four (T. Lloyd 61 not out). Lancashire 217 in 85.5 overs (W. Hegg 76, G. Small five for 60, A. Merrick five for 67).

At Canterbury: Kent 230 in 85.5 overs and 61 for seven. Hampshire 170 in 79.2 overs (C. Cowdrey five for 46, H. Alleyne three for 58).

At Worcester: Worcestershire 290 in 89 overs. Nottinghamshire 132 in 35.2 overs (C. Broad 53, N. Radford five for 55, G. Dilley four for 37) and 248 (D. Randall 69, G. Dilley five for 80).

At Cardiff: Glamorgan 543 for eight (R. Shastri 157, G. Holmes 108) v Somerset.

At Headingley: Yorkshire 161 in 70.3 overs and 192 (A. Sidebottom 48, J. Love 46, P. Newman eight for 28). Derbyshire 170 in 75 overs (S. Goldsmith 51 not out, P. Jarvis five for 49, A. Sidebottom three for 28) and 20 for no wicket.

Other match: At Cambridge: Surrey 310 for three declared and 85 for no wicket (J. Greig 54 not out). Cambridge University 176 (M. Atherton 46, I. Greig six for 34).

At Leicester: Northamptonshire 176 in 57.3 overs and 17 for one. Leicestershire 327 in 112.2 overs (P. Defreitas 66, N. Briers 63, P. Willey 56).

At Lord's: Middlesex 263 in 83.4 overs (Essex 127 for five off 85 overs (G. Gooch 43).

At Bristol: Sussex 324 in 112.2 overs (T. Alderman five for 75, D. Graveney three for 50). Gloucestershire 76 for three off 26 overs (A. Stovold 50 not out).

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Three-way tie for lead in Portugal golf

QUINTA DO LAGO, Portugal, April 30, (Reuters): Australian Peter Fowler battled blustery winds to shoot a four-under-par 68 and share in the three-way tie for the lead after two rounds of the Portuguese Open golf tournament yesterday.

Irishman Eamonn Darcy and Briton Stephen Bennett both shot 70s to join Fowler on five-under-par 139, one stroke better than South African John Bland.

Darcy, one of Europe's Ryder Cup heroes, missed putts from 15 feet on the last two greens which would have given him the outright lead.

Fowler snatched his share of the lead by scoring his best run in the season marked by rare consistency — he has not shot worse than two-over-par all season.

No such performance was turned in by first-round co-leader Derrick Cooper who soared to a 75 to stand four strokes back along with nine others at 143.

Four players were grouped on 141, including Britons Colin Montgomerie and Mark James, and Americans John Slaughter and John Jacobs.

AUSTIN, Texas, April 30, (AP): Bob Charles and Bruce Devlin combined for an 8-under-par 62 and sole control of the second-round lead yesterday at the Legends of Golf tournament.

overs (T. Alderman five for 75, D. Graveney three for 50). Gloucestershire 76 for three off 26 overs (A. Stovold 50 not out).

At Old Trafford: Warwickshire 155 in 67.5 overs and 153 for four (T. Lloyd 61 not out). Lancashire 217 in 85.5 overs (W. Hegg 76, G. Small five for 60, A. Merrick five for 67).

At Canterbury: Kent 230 in 85.5 overs and 61 for seven. Hampshire 170 in 79.2 overs (C. Cowdrey five for 46, H. Alleyne three for 58).

At Worcester: Worcestershire 290 in 89 overs. Nottinghamshire 132 in 35.2 overs (C. Broad 53, N. Radford five for 55, G. Dilley four for 37) and 248 (D. Randall 69, G. Dilley five for 80).

Alcott up by a stroke in classic

OLD HICKORY, Tenn., April 30, (Reuters): American Amy Alcott posted an opening round seven-under-par 65 to take a one-stroke lead over compatriot Sherri Steinhauer in the LPGA's inaugural Sara Lee Classic yesterday.

Alcott recorded seven birdies during her round on holes two, four, five, 10, 12, 14 and 17. She missed several putts that would have given her a career best round.

"It would have been nice to shoot 64 or better because 65 is my career best and I could have bettered it. I've been playing well for a long time. Today I just played a great round of golf."

One stroke back is Steinhauer who is in her third year on the Tour and her 66 was a career best. "I missed a lot of putts under ten feet but made a lot over ten feet so I guess it balances out," said Steinhauer.

"I took a week off last week and it seemed to pay off today. I needed a round like this to boost my confidence. Everything just seemed to fall together today."

Cathy Johnston of the United States is in sole possession of third place with a career low round of 67. Johnston posted six birdies and was en route to a 66 before three putts the final green for a bogey.

"I had a real tricky shot on that final hole and just didn't give it enough. But I am really pleased with my round. I can't say that tomorrow I am going to beat Amy," continued Johnston. "I will just go out and try to play my game."

Americans Dottie Mochrie, Donna Cusano-Wilkins, Jerilyn Britz, Kathryn Young and Cathy Marino are tied at four-under-par 68.

Results National League New York 5 Cincinnati 4 Houston 6 Montreal 4 Los Angeles 6 St Louis 4 San Diego 6 Pittsburgh 3 San Francisco 4 Chicago 3 Atlanta 4 Philadelphia 3

American League New York 2 Texas 1 10-Boston 6 Minnesota 5 Detroit 9 Seattle 6 California 9 Toronto 5 Baltimore 9 Chicago 5 Kansas City 7 Milwaukee 2 Oakland 4 Cleveland 2

Norman comes up on the green on the first hole. (Reuter wirephoto)

Sutton and Donald lead rain-hit Houston Open

THE WOODLANDS, Texas, April 30, (Reuters): Americans Hal Sutton and Mike Donald shared the lead yesterday after two rounds of the rain-delayed \$700,000 Houston Open with 36-hole scores of eight-under-par 136.

Sutton and Donald both finished their second rounds before rain wiped out the rest of the day. Only 45 players completed their second rounds before rain and lightning forced the suspension of the second round until this morning.

Included Sutton had a two-under-par 70 yesterday morning to go with his opening 66 while Donald had a three-under-par 69 that included birdies on the last two holes.

They hold a one-shot lead over compatriot Ray Floyd and Greg Norman of Australia although neither player was able to tee his ball up. Both were to play 36 holes today.

Among those completed, Australian Steve Elkington and American Tim Simpson are the nearest to the lead with six-under-par totals of 138.

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Chinese show their class

BEIJING, April 30, (AP): Chinese gymnasts won the gold and silver medals yesterday in the women's individual all-around competition at the China Cup international Gymnastics tournament, mirroring the results in the men's competition.

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Dagmar Kersten of East Germany was third with 38.75 points.

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Dilley: nine for 117

first innings lead of 151, dismissed Geoff Cook to leave the visitors struggling at 17 for one before bad light intervened.

Kent captain Chris Cowdrey produced career-best bowling figures of five for 46 against Hampshire at Canterbury, before his good work was undone as they slumped to 61 for seven in their second innings, a lead of only 121.

Cardigan Connor and Steve Andrew produced bursts of three for 12 and three for 13 respectively as Kent slid into trouble.



Radford: eight for 150

still 136 behind on first innings. Essex's star batsmen Graham Gooch and Allan Border both fell to Neil Williams, who had figures of three for 12 from his eight overs.

Even with Border's fellow Australian, Terry Alderman, taking five for 75 for Gloucestershire, Sussex totalled 324 and then picked up three wickets for 19. Two of them fell in the first four overs of Rodney Bunting's championship debut but by the close, Gloucestershire had recovered to 76 for three.

Geoff Holmes became Glamorgan's third centurion in their match with Somerset.

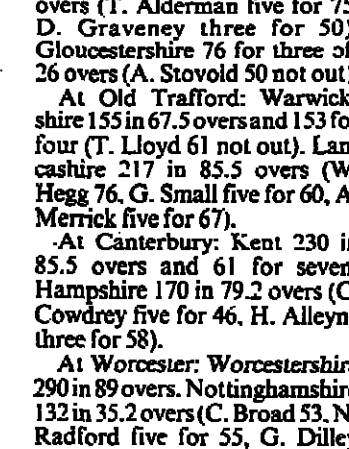


Newman: eight for 29

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Scores At Leicester: Northamptonshire 176 in 57.3 overs and 17 for one. Leicestershire 327 in 112.2 overs (P. Defreitas 66, N. Briers 63, P. Willey 56).

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SPORTS

LENDL, MCENROE AND GOMEZ IN LAST FOUR

Edberg edges Connors for semifinals

ATLANTA, April 30, (UPI): Sweden's Stefan Edberg defeated hobbled Jimmy Connors 6-4, 6-3 yesterday, to join Ivan Lendl, John McEnroe and Andres Gomez in the semifinals of the \$500,000 AT & T Challenge tennis tournament.

Lendl completed the round-robin portion of the tournament unbeaten with a 6-4, 6-3 victory over Gomez. Slobodan Zivjovic beat McEnroe 6-4, 6-3 last night, but McEnroe had already assured himself a semifinal berth with victories over Edberg and Connors. The loss was McEnroe's first since resuming competition two weeks ago.

Bad
Edberg was to meet McEnroe in the semifinals today. McEnroe defeated the Swede 6-1, 6-4 Thursday.

"That's the bad thing about playing round-robin," said Edberg, who beat Mats Wilander in a round-robin match at the Nabisco Masters in December, only to lose to his Swedish rival the following day in the semifinals.

Connors, bothered by a nagging foot injury, was beaten in 85 minutes. Edberg, playing on American clay courts for the first time in six years, broke Connors five times in the match. Connors



McEnroe is up to some of his old antics as he tosses his racket at the baseline after failing to return a volley. (Reuter wirephoto)

said he was eager for some time off to rest.

"I'm off from tennis for a while," said Connors, who planned to see a doctor in St. Louis for treatment. "I've had enough of tennis in a lot of ways. I need a

break for a lot of reasons."

Connors has been plagued by the injury — an inflammation of the sesamoid bone in the ball of his right foot — since last summer. Doctors have told him the foot probably will require sur-

gery but Connors is postponing an operation that would probably end his career.

Connors, a five-time US Open champion, said rest and frequent medical treatment should enable him to continue playing until he

decides to retire.

"The best scenario is that I can take rest and have a little treatment and be ready to play in the French Open (beginning in late May)," Connors said. "The worst scenario is I could rest and take some treatment and could be out for six or seven weeks. Whatever happens, happens."

Trailing 1-5 in the second set, Connors staged a brief rally, holding serve and breaking Edberg to pull within 3-5. Edberg, 22, responded with pressure tennis to finish the match.

"I got off to quite a good start," said Edberg, who won for the fourth time in nine matches against Connors. "I decided to stay back and rally and wait for him to make the mistakes."

Difference

Lendl and Gomez secured semifinals berth by winning their first two matches against Mikael Pernfors and Amos Mansdorf.

Lendl said he was not bothered by having to play Gomez on consecutive days.

"He may beat me. He could have beaten me today," Lendl said. "It makes no difference if you play once, twice or three times. Sometimes, you play an exhibition against the same person five nights in a row."



Becker returns a shot. (Reuter wirephoto)

Becker and Leconte to meet in semifinals

HAMBURG, West Germany, April 30, (Reuter): Boris Becker reached the semifinals of the West German Open yesterday and began thinking he could confound his critics and win on clay — not just there but for a Grand Slam title at the French Open.

Buoyed by a commanding 6-1 6-3 victory over Argentina's teenage claycourt specialist Guillermo Perez-Roldan, Becker said he was convinced he could also play well next month on the similar slow, red clay courts in Paris.

"Winning the French is the biggest challenge for me — everyone says I can't win on clay," said Becker, who has won tournaments on every other surface. Last week he went out in the second round in Monte Carlo, on clay.

Looking

"Today was my first real test because he (Perez-Roldan) is very good on clay. When it's like that I'm looking forward to the French."

Last year, Becker reached the last four in Paris. "I was almost too happy to be in the semifinals," he said, adding that this year he intended to mount a more serious challenge to the likes of Ivan Lendl and Mats Wilander.

One man who could quickly dampen Becker's new-found confidence is Henri Leconte, top seed Becker's semifinal opponent. The fifth-seeded Frenchman

was in stylish form as he beat fourth-seeded Joakim Nystrom of Sweden 6-4 6-2 yesterday.

Winner here two years ago, Leconte has never beaten the West German in five tournament meetings but he won on the only previous occasion they played on clay, an exhibition match in Duesseldorf.

"I played well on the big points, I was changing all the time," said Leconte, who mixed delicate drop shots, half volleys and powerful forehands to confuse Nystrom.

Swedish hopes, however, remained alive as second seed Kent Carlsson eased into the last four with a 6-0 6-3 victory over Swiss ninth seed Claudio Mezzadani.

Carlsson is playing only his third tournament after an eight-month break for a knee operation. The Swede, who won the Madrid Grand Prix two weeks ago, is playing with his left knee heavily strapped but has conceded only 11 games in three matches here so far.

"Everything is feeling very good now," Carlsson said.

In the semifinals, the Swede plays Spain's Jordi Arrese, ranked 53rd in the world but improving rapidly.

Arrese eliminated 35-year-old Argentine veteran Guillermo Vilas 6-4 6-4 to reach the singles semifinals of a Grand Prix tournament for the first time in his career.

Agassi cruises through

CHARLESTON, S.C., April 30, (Reuter): Top-seeded Andre Agassi celebrated his 18th birthday yesterday and led four Americans into the semifinals of the \$200,000 US Open men's clay court championships.

Agassi defeated Richie Reneberg 6-1 6-3 after breaking serve in the opening game of the match and leading 4-0.

Agassi was to meet unseeded

compatriot Lawson Duncan in the semifinal today.

Duncan advanced 6-0 3-0 when fourth-seeded Jay Riedel retired.

Seventh-seeded Jimmy Arias, world 122, swept into the semifinals with a 6-0 6-2 triumph over second-seeded Aaron Krickstein.

Arias' opponent will be American Jim Courier, 17, a wild card entry in the 32-player draw.

Real could face sanctions

GENEVA, April 30, (Reuter): Spanish soccer champions Real Madrid could face sanctions over incidents after last week's European Cup semifinal second leg tie against PSV Eindhoven in the Netherlands.

A European Football Union (UEFA) spokesman told Reuters yesterday: "We have just received the official match report. It will be studied by the control and disciplinary committee in Munich on June 26."

The spokesman said Real players were involved in the incidents at the end of the goalless draw. The Dutch side went through to the final on the away goals rule after drawing the first leg 1-1 in Madrid. They play Portugal's Benfica in the final in Stuttgart on May 25.

Lawson fastest in practice

JEREZ DE LA FRONTERA, Spain, April 30, (Reuter): Twice world champion Eddie Lawson came out on top in yesterday's timed practice sessions for the 500cc Portuguese Motorcycle Grand Prix tomorrow.

The American, who leads the overall standings, clocked the fastest lap time of one minute 50.63 seconds with his Yamaha for the 4.22-km circuit at Jerez in Spain where the event is being staged because of inadequate facilities in Portugal.

Star newcomer Kevin Magee of Australia, who won his first Grand Prix when he took the Spanish event at Jarama last

Davis Cup

HAMBURG, West Germany, April 30, (Reuter): West Germany's Davis Cup semifinal with Yugoslavia will be played in Dortmund on July 22-24, the West Germany Tennis Federation (DTB) said yesterday.

S. American soccer

MONTEVIDEO, April 30, (Reuter): Nacional of Uruguay beat Flamengo of Brazil 3-0 (half-time 1-0) in the first leg of their South American Supercup quarterfinal soccer tie on Thursday night.

British rider

AMMAN, April 30, (Reuter): A British woman born without arms demonstrated her horsemanship technique to handicapped Jordanian youths yesterday at a riding school near the capital, Philadelphia, 26, from Berkshire, England, controlling a light-brown Arabian horse with her toes, was performing for the charity Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA).

Grand Prix

DALLAS, April 30, (AP): Actor-driver Paul Newman turned a lap of 59.764 seconds for the fifth-fastest time yesterday during practice laps on the opening day of the three-day Grand Prix of Dallas Trans-Am race.

Roger Staubach

IRVING, Texas, April 30, (AP): Roger Staubach, who quarterbacked the Dallas Cowboys to two Super Bowl titles, has organized a team of investors interested in buying the pro football franchise. Cowboys president Tex Schramm said.

US academy

WASHINGTON, April 30, (AP): The United States Olympic Committee's executive board yesterday approved plans to build an academy at Olympia, Washington, to help train the coaches and teachers of athletes that may one day represent the United States in the Olympics.

Permission refused

BIRMINGHAM, Alabama, April 30, (AP): The East German government reportedly has refused to grant a University of Alabama swimmer, Jens-Peter Berndt, permission to compete in the 1988 Olympics as an American.

World record

CARDIFF, April 30, (Reuter): Anatoli Khrapaty of the Soviet Union set a world record for the jerk in the mid-heavyweight division at the European Weightlifting Championship yesterday. Khrapaty, who won the overall gold medal, lifted 235 kg to beat his own previous record of 233.5 kg.

Olympic qualifier

AMSTERDAM, April 30, (Reuter): Spain qualified for the men's Olympic hockey tournament in Seoul when they beat Poland 2-1 (half-time 2-0) in the second match of their playoff series yesterday.

Golf tourney

TOGOCHO, Japan, April 30, (AP): Japan's Saburo Fujiki shot a sizzling six-under-par 64 yesterday and grabbed the third round lead of the \$720,000 Chunichi Crowns golf tournament.

Penn Relays

PHILADELPHIA, April 30, (Reuter): American Lynda Tolbert ran the women's 100-metre hurdles in 13.20 seconds yesterday to highlight performances on a wet and windy afternoon at the Penn Relays athletics meet.

Bridge

RESULTS of the Menshik Ladies Bridge Club game held yesterday morning:

1. Sandra Turvey & Pearl Leavy
2. Nabil Akel & Juliette Mushawar
3. Margaret Maynard & Daphne El Sand
4. The Sheraton Ladies Bridge Club (Top of the Year) tournament will be held at 9.00 am on Wednesday, May 4, at the Sheraton premises.
5. Results of the Sheraton Bridge Club's marathon game held on Thursday:
1. Adly Tabb & Magdi Mestari
2. Ibrahim Qattan & Hussein Selim
3. Dr. Haniat Soud & Gregory Latala
4. Nabil Akel & Charles Jallo
5. Alex Kerkji & Marcel Zamanzi
6. B.R. Sharma & Gajjar Mohan Lal

Snooker

Griffiths rallies to take lead over White

SHEFFIELD, England, April 30, (Reuter): Welshman Terry Griffiths, appearing in his first World Professional Snooker Championship semifinal since winning the title in 1979, withstood a burst from Jimmy White to gain a narrow lead yesterday.

Starting the day level at 4-4 in their best-of-31-frame match, Griffiths edged ahead 8-7 at the end of their second session to leave the stage set for a thrilling finale today.

Griffiths, ranked sixth in the world, won the first two frames of the day against the Englishman, but then had to sit in his chair as White, known as "The Whirlwind," went on a three-frame winning streak.

White, the only semifinalist not to have won the world crown, compiled breaks of 48, 77, and 83 in quick succession.

Emerges

In the other semifinal, four times champion Steve Davis of England emerged from a grueling second session with an 8-6 lead over Canadian Cliff Thorburn, the 1980 title winner.

The first seven frames of the day took three hours and 38 minutes to complete as Thorburn, trailing 4-3 overnight, attempted to wear down the defending champion in a four-hour struggle.

Davis appeared to be winning the war against Thorburn when he won the first three frames of the third session, hardly missing a ball as he made breaks of 47, 69 and 40.

That left Thorburn trailing 11-6 but he responded by winning the 18th frame following up a break of 77 with a 49 clearance.

The Canadian escaped after a bad miss on the pink in the next frame, eventually clinching it on the same colour, to reduce the deficit 11-8.

Barnes picks up another award

LONDON, April 30, (Reuter): Liverpool and England winger John Barnes was voted Footballer of the Year by the English Football Writers' Association today.

Barnes, named earlier this month, Player of the Year by his fellow professionals, and his club captain Alan Hansen collected 96 per cent of the votes.

Liverpool manager Kenny Dalglish said: "I can't work out who the other four per cent voted for."

Italian soccer

MILAN, Italy, April 30, (Reuter): Italian soccer authorities agreed yesterday to allow live second half television coverage of tomorrow's vital League title clash between Napoli and AC Milan after appeals from law and order chiefs in Naples.

The agreement by the Italian League applies only to the Naples area but marked a climb-down from a previous decision not to show the match live.

Lendl eager to regain Italian title

ROME, April 30, (Reuter): Ivan Lendl goes into the Italian Open tennis championships beginning next week eager to regain the men's title from Mats Wilander and further dent the Swede's assault on his position as world number one.

The Czechoslovak, fresh from a hard-fought victory at Monte Carlo, ceded the crown to the persistent Swede last year when he crashed out of the tournament in the third round against Wilander's compatriot Joakim Nystrom.

Wilander, ever unflinched and in his element at the baseline on the slow, clay of the Foro Italico's centre court, went on to win the tournament with a straight sets victory over Argentina's Martin Jaite in the final.

This year, Wilander began the clay court season badly, losing at

Monte Carlo early in the competition to young Italian Carlo Pistolesi. But he had been laid low by illness and should be fully fit for the men's tournament which starts on May 9 after the women's week.

Rankings

Lendl's victory in Monte Carlo earned him some breathing space at the top of the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) computer rankings after Wilander reduced his lead to just 28-1/2 points prior to the tournament.

Big crowd-puller Boris Becker's scheduled appearance, probably as third seed in Rome, has ensured most tickets for the \$795,000 tournament are already sold out.

But France's Yannick Noah, who won in 1985, is also a popular player in Italy and a for-

midable slow surface competitor, who will be flexing his clay court muscles for the French Open which traditionally follows the Italian.

Organisers have left three wild cards open for late comers and are still hoping to attract more big names — possibly John McEnroe and Wimbledon champion Pat Cash.

But the line-up is already strong, with Ecuador's Andres Gomez, Nystrom and fellow Swedes Anders Jarryd, Kent Carlsson, and Mikael Pernfors, as well as Jaite, Spain's Emilio Sanchez and Henri Leconte of France already signed up.

The women's tournament suffered a blow last night when the Women's International Tennis Association announced Martina Navratilova would not be playing.

Organisers said the reason for the Czechoslovak-born American's sudden decision to pull out was medical, but had no details.

World number one Steffi Graf, who won last year, had already decided not to play in order to avoid Navratilova, whom she has indicated she does not want to meet in any but the Grand Slam tournaments, organisers said.

But the world's third-ranked player, 33-year-old Chris Evert, who beat Navratilova in Houston last week, will be in Rome alongside last year's finalist, 17-year-old Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina.

The European challenge will be led by the tall West German Claudia Kohde-Kilsch, ranked ninth in the world, and Bulgaria's Katerina Maleeva.

Top seeds for Champions event

NEW YORK, April 30, (Reuter): Stefan Edberg of Sweden, defending champion Andres Gomez of Ecuador and Martin Jaite of Argentina were named yesterday the top seeds for Monday's \$677,500 "Tournament of Champions" tennis tournament at Forest Hills.

John McEnroe, in the midst of his second comeback attempt in as many years, is seeded fourth in the 64 player draw.

Filling out the remainder of the top eight seeds are American Andre Agassi, seeded fifth, sixth-seeded Mikael Pernfors of Sweden, number seven Aaron Krickstein of the US and Slobodan Zivjovic of Yugoslavia.

through 10 service winners.

"The real turning point was when the score was 2-3 in the third set and I was serving at 40-0 down," said Shriver. "I just hung on and it worked."

Shriver, 25, faces six-foot-two Helena Sukova of Czechoslovakia in tomorrow's final.

Encounters

Sukova overcame arch-rival Manuela Maleeva 7-6 4-6 6-3. She won the tie-break 7-1.

That was the first time Sukova has beaten Bulgarian Maleeva in four encounters since 1982.

Sukova, ranked one place behind Maleeva at seventh in the world, said her serve and volley game proved too strong for the Bulgarian's baseline tactics.

"She stayed back on the baseline. So I had a chance to recover even from her good serves," said Sukova.

But Sukova gave no predictions on the result of tomorrow's final against Pam Shriver who is also a master of the serve and volley game.

"It will be a good game," said Sukova who has lost six of her last eight matches with Shriver. Shriver had praise for her victim Savchenko, who is ranked twentieth in the world.

"She has improved very much as a player... I was uneasy because she hits the ball very hard off both backhand and forehand."

Prost powers to provisional pole position

IMOLA, Italy, April 30, (Reuter): Frenchman Alain Prost today continued where he left off in Brazil earlier this month by narrowly outpacing his McLaren teammate Ayrton Senna to claim provisional pole position for tomorrow's San Marino Grand Prix.

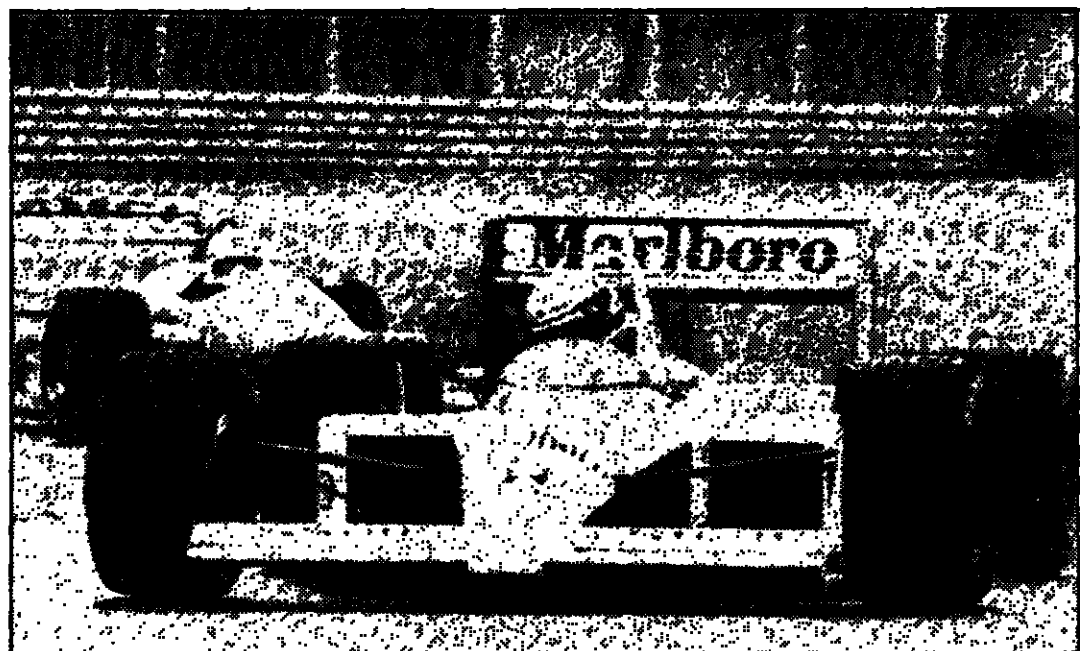
World championship leader Prost, who dominated the season opening Brazilian race, finished with the fastest time in the opening qualifying session of one minute 41.278 seconds — just 0.3 seconds quicker than his Brazilian teammate.

Favourites
The McLaren pair, powered by Honda-turbo engines, justified their impressive reputation as the early favourites in this season's World Championship by finishing nearly two seconds clear of their nearest challenger, Ferrari driver Gerhard Berger of Austria.

On a drying track after steady rain throughout the morning, Berger finished the opening sessions with a quickest time of 1:43.394 — ahead of Brazilian world champion Nelson Piquet who was fourth quickest in his Lotus.

The highest normally aspirated position was achieved by Italian Alessandro Nannini, who claimed the fifth best time in a Benetton. Briton Nigel Mansell was in sixth place in another normally aspirated car, the Judd-powered Williams.

Prost, winner at Imola in 1984 and 1986 and disqualified after



Senna, in his McLaren, followed by Piquet during practice. (Reuter wirephoto)

finishing first in 1985, could set a Formula One points record if he wins his 30th Grand Prix or comes second tomorrow.

He was more concerned, however, with concentrating on the difficulties he faced during an eventful day after his successful qualifying session.

He said: "The session was pretty much a lottery with a lot of traffic out near the end as the track was drying. It is impossible to say whether the set up is good or bad in these conditions

because the surface is changing all the time.

"There was a five-minute spell when it might have been possible to use slicks, but it began to rain again in the last few minutes."

The wet weather interrupted the morning's free session during which Mansell slightly damaged the nose of his Williams in a collision with Oscar Larrauri's Eurobrun and the qualifying session began more than 20 minutes late as a result.

Italian Andrea de Cesaris cra-

shed his Rial during the morning and he was unable to participate in the official run.

Everyone began on wet tyres and there was a rush to try and record faster times during the final stages of the session as the circuit dried out.

Senna said: "Everybody was waiting as late as possible to have another run because it was drying all the time. I went out on a new set of wet tyres in the last few minutes, but the flag came out as I tried for an even quicker lap."

ARAB TIMES

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